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CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
NOTES OF THE WEEK	33	SPECIAL ARTICLE:		CORRESPONDENCE (<i>continued</i>):	
LEADING ARTICLES:		“Imperial Home Rule.” By “Pat”	41	The Free Church Sunday School	46
Parliament and the Pensions Pickle	36	MIDDLES:		Norway's Attitude to Sweden	47
Denver Democracy	37	The Grey Mountain. By Herbert		The Daylight Saving Bill	48
The Navy and War Risks of Shipping	38	Vivian	43	REVIEWS:	
The Anglican Communion—a Reply	38	Pachmann and Paderewski. By Arthur		The Philosopher-Statesman	48
Criticasters of Oxford	39	Symons	44	From the Dickens Dust-heap	49
THE CITY	40	The University Match	45	Plantagenet Ireland	50
INSURANCE:		VERSE:		The Vindication of Wellington	51
Atlas Reminiscent	41	The Beanfield. By J. S. Phillimore	45	NOVELS	52
		CORRESPONDENCE:		THE JULY REVIEWS	53
		The Cetinje Trial for High Treason.		SHORTER NOTICES	54
		By Herbert Vivian	46		

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications: and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The press, and, as far as the press enabled it, the public, have been busy this week making the most of certain naval scandals. That there have been and are dissensions amongst certain prominent naval officers is matter, one may say, of common knowledge. But that is no excuse for aggravating and exploiting what in the national interest should be left undiscussed, at any rate in the public prints. Nothing can be gained by curiosity about personalities of this kind; and the Prime Minister was right to damp down the matter by a very cold answer. Not that we deprecate Mr. Bellairs' question, as Mr. Asquith was almost bound to say he did, for the question did good in drawing an official statement which was required. People were getting too much excited about the whole business. But Mr. Lea's questions the next day were outrageous. Making much of personal incidents is one thing; criticism is quite another. The Board of Admiralty is not sacrosanct, neither is the system and method of Sir John Fisher.

Mr. Bellairs is so convinced that the present system is estranging many of our best naval officers that he would have an inquiry into the whole matter. Mr. McKenna says that would be passing a vote of censure on the Sea Lords. The Government will have no inquiry, we may be quite sure. The old question whether a naval officer should be engineer as well as executive came up in Wednesday's debate. Under the present system, very recently introduced, he practically is. No doubt it sounds very nice, every naval officer being trained to be competent to do everything that can be required in the whole service of the ship. But can it be done? Probably it is too early yet to judge by experience; but certainly misgiving as to the wisdom of the change is growing rather than confidence in it. The difference

between the work of an engineer and that of the fighting naval officer seems to be too great to allow even of a common training.

Perhaps one person out of every million in this country or any other country is able to give a really useful opinion as to whether the battleship is built too big to-day. It is odd therefore that so many people should be holding forth about it just now. Who is an undoubted expert in this matter? We remember hearing a constructor say that though he had designed many great ships, after all it was merely his business to make ships which would carry the armour decided on by others; and perhaps if one asked those others, they would shift the credit likewise. But though hardly anyone can speak usefully about the wisdom of the modern type of very large ships, there is a point about them which no one can miss—the immense field they need for evolution. In this matter an account of a curious incident in manœuvres of the Channel Fleet was given in the “Times” on Tuesday.

An order, it is said, was given for the “Good Hope” and the “Argyll” to perform an evolution which might have brought them into collision. The “Good Hope”, however, did not mast-head the answer to the signal. The incident recalls the case of the “Victoria” and “Camperdown”, in which Admiral Markham at first kept his signal at the dip, rightly believing that the movement ordered by Tryon could not be executed safely. Perhaps responsibility cannot be heavier in any human affair than it is to-day in these movements of great ships close together, and it is a peculiarity of this service that the responsibility is as insistent and severe in mock warfare as it would be in real.

In answer to Captain Kincaid-Smith Mr. Haldane has now given us the latest returns as to the Territorial Army. The total strength on 1 July is provisionally given at 20,622 yeomanry, 24,326 artillery and 111,704 infantry, as against 24,115 yeomanry, 38,202 artillery and 178,128 infantry on 1 January, 1907. These totals of course include the recruits who in any case would probably have joined. These work out, for the first six months of this year, at 3,781 yeomanry, 6,562 artillery and 25,636 infantry. The actual transfers from the old force into the new are 19,702 yeomanry, 18,000 artillery and 93,375 infantry. Thus the number

of men who have not taken on the new conditions, judging by the figures given us as regards transfers, is considerable. The return, however, does not show how the real efficiency of the yeomanry or volunteers stands, the figures, perhaps necessarily, are given en bloc, and so are of little value. We know that some crack corps have taken on the new conditions almost en masse. These, therefore, swell the totals. But how about the remainder? What will their fighting efficiency be if they are ever called upon to fight?

Mr. Arnold-Forster and the military correspondent of the "Times" are again at loggerheads. On Thursday Mr. Arnold-Forster wrote to the "Times", showing how persistently Mr. Haldane's policy aimed at reduction, and how consistently those of his three immediate predecessors aimed at increase and expansion. This is so. But we cannot agree with Mr. Arnold-Forster that his plans would have solved all our difficulties. Even public memory is not so short as to imagine that the schemes of Mr. Brodrick and his successor were as similar as Mr. Arnold-Forster now seems to suggest. Just about the time when Mr. Arnold-Forster became War Secretary, the "blue water" school, of which he was one of the most prominent exponents, was much to the fore, a philosophy which hardly coincided with the aims of his predecessor's schemes.

The difficulty about the King's horses seems likely to be almost as great as the difficulty about the King's men. There was an interesting debate on the matter in the House of Lords on Monday. Lord Donoughmore drew attention to the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, and spoke truly of the decreasing supply. Lord Carrington was hopeful and comforting, and spoke of at least two million young horses being in the country now. But it is a well-known fact that people have found it difficult of late to buy horses such as they want. Horse breeding is not a promising venture to-day with motors coming more and more into favour. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is to be squeezed for a grant to encourage, but we doubt whether it is this kind of good work which he will be enthusiastic about.

Mr. Haldane treats in a very off-hand way the question of foreign military spies. He will not admit that anything is going on in England which is not allowed quite freely in other countries. Spying is not "apparently" going on, he says, and all the information that could be got by the means alleged can be got from the published scale-maps. But is this so? He says that the most careful survey of the ground will be made in future by the forces charged with the defence of particular parts of the country. It appears therefore from this that something more is needed than what the maps supply. Why then should it not be worth while for the foreign spies to make a more careful survey for the purpose of attack?

As it is a question whether Colonel Lockwood or Mr. Haldane is right about the spies, so there is a dispute whether the Bishop of London or the police are right about the one hundred and fifty to two hundred drunken people whom the Bishop says he saw and even took from public-houses when he headed the procession in Westminster. The police have reported that they saw no drunken persons. It is all very puzzling. After the gratifying report of the Police Commission it is impossible to suppose that there was any dereliction of duty on the part of the police; and it is unnecessary to say of course that the Bishop's personal testimony is unimpeachable. The Bishop is a teetotaler, and perhaps does not apply the genial and tolerant standard of the police to doubtful cases. They know too well how often a man who is *prima facie* drunk is proved to be a model of sobriety. We wish the Bishop had testified with equal confidence that after this famous march a psalm to himself ("Jolly Good Fellow") had not been substituted by his temperance enthusiasts for a hymn. It was stated circumstantially that this was done, and we have waited anxiously, in vain, for an authentic denial.

The Old Age Pensions Bill has passed its Third Reading. We should say nothing in the whole session, even including Mr. McKenna's education fiasco, has so damaged the Government as their conduct of this Bill. Here was a reform of whose need all parties are satisfied. On principle there was no opposition. Yet the Government have succeeded in annoying more friends by it than by anything else they have touched. The Labour members it has practically estranged altogether. The Government has tried to do a good thing very badly. There is hardly a criticism to which their scheme is not open. Every hour of the debate made it plainer that Ministers had never thought out either the way or the means. They plunged into it without counting the cost, and already have committed themselves to an expenditure far in excess of their own limit, without reaching multitudes deserving of pensions. Tactically, however, the Government scored on Thursday by putting the Opposition to the awkward election between voting for a bad scheme and voting against a good object. Ten members of the Opposition voted against the Bill.

The melancholy thing about the whole matter is that the Bill fails to meet the real social difficulty aimed at. It does not establish any right to an old age pension. It has instead set up a haphazard system of supplementary or alternative poor relief. Morally the Government plan is a total failure. Practically it will be vexatious to work. No means of proving age is provided; the industry test is inquisitorial and almost impossible. The Bill falls between a contributory and a universal scheme, the only possible alternatives. We believe the Government meant well by this Bill; but we must say it looks wonderfully as though they had framed it on the principle of "after us the deluge".

It is plain and simple that the Miners' Eight Hours Bill is a piece of electioneering. When we hear from Liberals that Conservative electioneers have won thousands of votes by promising to vote for it, this only explains why the Liberal Government have brought in the Bill which on Monday passed its second reading. Miners are a very numerous and a very highly organised class; that is why they are the first body of working men to have their hours regulated by Act of Parliament. They have been agitating for twenty years, and no doubt they would have got what they wanted sooner, but the North of England miners were against it. Now the schism has been settled and the Eight Hours Bill is the result.

The schism shows what nonsense it is talking about the inhumanity of refusing the demand. The whole thing has been an economic question; and when the miners have agreed amongst themselves on this, they naturally wished to work only eight hours. They do not talk Mr. Churchill's claptrap about seeing their homes by daylight, time to see their children, and so on. If he knew anything about miners, he would have seen them always returning to their homes by two and three o'clock in the afternoon. Miners are only doing what others do: bettering themselves when they can. Their work is hard enough and their pay is not so extravagant as some people often assert; but it is quite true that where there are mines in the neighbourhood, the agricultural labourer is always glad to exchange the "open expanse of heaven" for the "gloom and terror" of the mine.

It is evident that the New Zealand Compulsory Arbitration Act has not been a great success. All parties are dissatisfied with it and a new Arbitration Bill has been brought in to amend it. There have been more strikes since the Act than before. When the unions have gone to the Arbitration Court the decisions, they say, have been mostly against them because to strike had become illegal; and they have struck in defiance. They would therefore prefer the old conciliation boards and the right to strike. The new Bill, however, is a compromise. The men's feelings are consulted by adding working-men assessors from the trades; thus giving the desired element of the

conciliation board which is wanting to the Arbitration Court at present. On the other hand the penalties against strikes are greatly increased. New Zealand is not yet at the end of its useful experiment to prevent strikes.

For every black on earth a white, for every atom of pleasure an atom of pain, this is the doctrine of compensation which Emerson so curiously wrought out. Is there not a great deal in it? Certainly we should say that garden parties would illustrate admirably this theory. The pleasure which those who are invited to a great party get seems so often counterbalanced by the pain felt by those left out by chance or design. In politics the Garden Party has been a party of contention more than once of late years. Some ten years ago, if we recollect aright, there was a sad story of good men and true left out. And now it has happened again. Mr. Keir Hardie and one or two others have been left out of the Garden Party.

An extraordinary proposal is made in some quarters—it is that Mr. Keir Hardie shall go to his constituents and ask for an expression of their confidence. But why in the world Mr. Hardie should go to Merthyr Tydvil because he did not go to Windsor we cannot comprehend. Almost as extraordinary is the way in which the weekly light of the Liberal party has drawn the name of the Foreign Office into this question. It really appears to think that in some obscure way the Foreign Office got Mr. Hardie's name left out of the list because Mr. Hardie spoke against the royal visit to Russia! As a fact, of course, the Foreign Office is as much to blame or praise in the matter as the Corn Exchange or Westminster Abbey.

We are waiting to hear that the several newspapers and politicians who imputed to the police grave blame over the d'Angeley incident have apologised. The "Morning Post" has apologised. But there are others; and they seem a little shy of publicity in the matter. A frank and quick apology rarely hurts a man, whereas a halt and late one is bad for the reputation. We hope that all the people who publicly upbraided the police over the d'Angeley affair will remember before it is too late that they owe a complete apology for a most unhappy blunder.

Mr. Jesse Collings is keeping his golden wedding, and he deserves the congratulations of friend and opponent alike. He has been a quite consistent politician for more years than most people in party politics care to count. If it were lightly said that Mr. Collings had been consistent in following Mr. Chamberlain as faithfully as the lamb followed Mary, it might be retorted that Mr. Chamberlain followed Mr. Collings in at least one famous case. Mr. Collings, not Mr. Chamberlain, hit out the plan of the cow and the three acres; and a generation later is not Lord Carrington adopting in a slightly different form Mr. Collings' proposal? Nor is Lord Carrington the only convert Mr. Collings can boast of. He has Mr. Chaplin of his party to-day. In fact, Tories, radicals, socialists, individualists, are we not all in Mr. Collings' queue to-day?

Count Ignatieff's public career began as a Military Attaché in London, when the negotiations were going on after the Crimean war. It practically ended, as far as diplomacy was concerned, with the revision of the Treaty of San Stefano at the Berlin Congress in 1878, by which so much of his grand scheme for the re-arrangement of Europe was upset. He was unlucky too with the treaties he made when he induced China to give up the Amur Province in 1858, and in 1860 when as Ambassador at Peking he obtained the Manchurian coast-line and Vladivostok. The Treaty of Portsmouth, after the Japanese victories, upset much of his astute diplomatic work. He lived to see Russian activity in the Near East, where he was the most prominent Pan-Slavist, as well as in the Far East, much reduced. But Bulgaria regards him as the champion of her ideals. His influence in Russia ceased in 1882 when he was

dismissed from the Ministry of the Interior, and his scheme for an Assembly was frustrated by the influence of M. Pobiedonostseff and Count Tolstoy, who became Minister in his place.

Persia will have to make amends for the Cossack investment of the British Legation in the capital. The Shah with the aid of Colonel Liakhoff in Teheran and of the Russian Consul General in Tabriz has successfully asserted his authority, and he must now put himself right with the British Government by making the full apology demanded. Russia's attitude throughout the crisis has been entirely loyal to the spirit of the Anglo-Russian Convention. She has acted with England throughout, and when Colonel Liakhoff went outside his province as Commander of the Shah's bodyguard he was promptly called to order by the Russian Minister. Time was when a Russian officer in any part of Asia who exceeded his powers would have been promoted. The Shah cannot hope to play off Russia against England and vice versa to-day.

General d'Amade has set the ball of suspicion as to French intentions in Morocco rolling afresh by entering Asemmur. He went to restore order and ensure the safety of the Shawia, and having done so he retired immediately, but that fact does not convince M. Jaurès and a section of the German press that his intentions were in strict agreement with the undertakings of the French Government. The truth is Morocco is in such a hopeless state of chaos that whilst everyone in the country moves more or less in the dark, in Europe every move is suspect. General d'Amade apparently still has Abd-el-Aziz under his wing, and Mulai Hafid has not yet established his authority sufficiently to warrant the French Government in recognising him as the de facto Sultan. Until Mulai Hafid has the coast districts on his side, it is impossible to throw Abd-el-Aziz over. Mulai Hafid has been proclaimed in Fez only to find his position menaced by the second Pretender in the field.

The Democratic Convention at Denver seems to be as much a one-man business as the Republican Convention at Chicago. Mr. Bryan has carried all before him. To us here the proceedings at these conventions are not very interesting, and when the result is a foregone conclusion they are not interesting at all. Records in cheering are merely stupid, and the speeches do not seem even to be intended to affect anybody's opinion. That of course is not their object: they are merely for "enthusing". Mr. Bryan himself is a personality: though quite a "politician", in the American sense, he is not a "politician" merely: neither is he a glorified average American. By the way, both he and Mr. Taft might do worse than consider how to make the American Day of Rejoicing something other than an annual battle, with its regular list of killed and wounded.

As successors to Messrs. Moody and Sankey and Alexander and Torrey it seems we are to have in London another interesting batch of evangelists. Mr. John P. Quinn, described as the "Prince of Gamblers and Card-sharpers", who is the founder of the International Anti-Gambling Association of New York, Mr. George D. Lane, the Secretary, and Mr. Edwin Noyes Hill, are to open their anti-gambling crusade here. Mr. Hill's qualifications are that he is the last survivor of the Bidwell gang who were sentenced for life thirty-five years ago for the famous frauds on the Bank of England, which nearly succeeded, and if they had would have cost the Bank a million of money. The disinterested efforts of gentlemen with such antecedents to improve our morals ought to be welcome: and we are particularly grateful to Mr. Gladstone as Home Secretary for having taken measures about Mr. Hill's ticket of leave which will relieve him from the irksomeness of police interference whilst he is amongst us.

By the new Papal legislation England, from the Roman Catholic point of view, ceases to be a missionary country, and is consequently removed from the control of the "Congregation de Propaganda fide"

In a sense this step may be described as a bolder assertion of Papal jurisdiction than was the establishment of the present Roman hierarchy; but public opinion is more enlightened than it was in the days when Lord John Russell and his like voiced the Protestantism of England, and treats it as a mere matter of the internal discipline of the Roman Communion. The change is part of a larger scheme of reform which contemplates a real field of activity for the Rota and Segnatura, the ancient Roman tribunals which, like our Court of Arches and Consistories, have greatly declined in influence of late years. The Pope is also providing for the compilation of a complete and revised text of the Canon Law. If this can be accomplished, Pius X.'s Pontificate will rank from the canonist point of view with that of Gregory IX., in whose pontificate the Decretales were drawn up. Maitland said that the great legislative period of the papacy ended in 1317. Is it going to recommence?

A very remarkable verdict was given in the prosecution of Mr. Cade, the coal contractor to the Mile End Guardians. The jury found him "not guilty of intent to defraud"; but they added, "We consider him worthy of severe censure for his loose business methods". But if Mr. Cade was not guilty, what had the jury to do with his business methods? The defence was that though he substituted other coals the Guardians knew of it. If they did, Mr. Cade could, of course, not be convicted of obtaining money from them by false pretences. The Guardians gave no evidence in disproof of this; and according to the Recorder the coal to be supplied being Nixon's Navigation coal at a certain price, he delivered Nixon's Merthyr coal which was cheaper. The Recorder added, "if the whole thing was not a fraud he did not know by what other name it could be called". Certainly the judge and the jury were at cross purposes.

One wonders whether Sir Harry Poland is sanguine about his plea that the Old Bailey should be the one court for the whole county of London. In his letter to the "Times" of Thursday he says the dream of his life has been the abolition of the courts at Clerkenwell, Westminster and Newington. He quite indisputably proves the advantage of the change from every point of view. But there is one ominous sentence in his letter. He says "Vested interests would have to be considered". This means the interest of the local bars at the courts proposed to be abolished. This must give him pause when he reflects that for years he has been urging the creation of provincial courts like that of the Old Bailey. It is circuit interests of the very kind he refers to that have prevented this reform.

Clerkenwell Court is a particularly noisome specimen of the London Court. The Justices are pressing the London County Council to build a new court-house. The expense would be enormous; and why should London ratepayers be charged when there is the new Central Criminal Court unoccupied half the year? It would be for the good of everybody concerned, jurymen, witnesses and prisoners, as Sir Harry Poland shows, to have all London trials there. The Justices want the new Court to be as near the Law Courts as possible. But it would be ridiculous to have two costly Criminal Courts in such close quarters.

With the passing of the horse the amenity of London is passing too. Even with an immense horse traffic some of the chief thoroughfares in town were agreeable at this season ten years ago. Piccadilly was pleasant Piccadilly then. Now it is simply pandemonium. All through the season now closing it has been a wild whirling scene. One thing only has been needed to cap its chaos. The London County Council should have discovered that the working classes were badly served by omnibuses and motor-omnibuses—Piccadilly should have been given a grand line of tramcars. As it is, there is really no doubt as to what has spoilt Piccadilly. It is that expensive hobby the motor-omnibus.

PARLIAMENT AND THE PENSIONS PICKLE.

UNDER modern conditions of party organisation to hope for impartial decisions from the House of Commons is Utopian. But a well-conducted debate may ultimately force the strongest Government to acknowledge its errors. No politician, however hardened his mental epidermis, can indefinitely maintain positions which have been shown to be argumentatively untenable. Sooner or later he is forced to make some concession to reason on pain of endangering his own reputation and the prestige of the Ministry to which he belongs. If therefore a Government Bill is difficult to defend, the one thing to be dreaded by its authors is free discussion—particularly in Committee and on Report. So long as the debate can be confined to general principles, as it is on the second and third readings, a measure must be quite abnormally absurd if a fair parliamentary case cannot be made out for it. But when it comes to criticism of the definite and detailed proposals in which those principles are embodied, then is their soundness really tested.

No better illustration of our meaning can be found than the parliamentary history of the Old Age Pensions Bill. On the second reading it was easy enough to talk about the "veterans of industry" and their "right" to a reward from the State. But none knew better than the Government that they were not in a position to give effect to any such "right". Apart from all other considerations the financial argument was overwhelming. To give the "veterans" their "rights" meant an expenditure of not less than £27,000,000, and the Government with a falling revenue and no prospect of administrative economy could not hope even in its most sanguine moments to find more than £6,000,000 or £7,000,000 at the outside. It became necessary therefore while talking loudly of "rights" in the first clause of the Bill to hedge those "rights" about with arbitrary limitations in its later clauses, the injustice of which could only be palliated by the plea of poverty. It was an accidental aggravation of the difficulties of the Government that the details of their measure had received the scantiest consideration by those who framed it, and that Mr. Lloyd George, who was charged with the duty of defending it, had a very imperfect acquaintance with its actual provisions. To permit unfettered discussion of such a Bill would have been to court disaster. Accordingly a guillotine resolution of unprecedented severity was passed in respect of it. Five days were allotted for Committee and one day for Report. By this means it was hoped that all danger from free and searching criticism had been avoided. As far as out-and-out defeat was concerned, the hope was indeed realised. Some of the most crucial questions such as the age limit of seventy and the so-called "industry test" were never discussed at all in Committee, and by the rules of the House could not be effectively discussed on Report. But the Bill so bristled with absurdity that even in a gagged House Ministers could not avoid all damaging discussions. On the question of the introduction of a sliding scale of pensions, varying according to the income of the pensioner, instead of a fixed pension below a fixed limit of income, and also on the grotesque proposal to diminish the pensions granted to a couple living together, the Government only escaped defeat by timely surrender. On other questions, such as the exclusion of paupers from pensions, Ministers made little or no attempt to defend their proposals. Their one excuse—want of money—was not convincing in view of their resolute refusal to explain the financial situation, and they had no other—save always the guillotine, which again and again fell just in time to save them from disaster. Nor was it only the legitimate Opposition who were thus balked of their prey. The Labour party felt even more keenly the disadvantages of a form of procedure which enables a Government to avoid all effective criticism on the details of their proposals. Perhaps the most characteristic incident of the whole debate was that about the most important provision of the Bill, the age limit, which the Labour party desired to lower, was never considered in Committee at all, and could not be altered on Report. It was a fitting climax to this

absurdity that in the only discussion on the subject, namely, as to the way in which the age of applicants for a pension was to be ascertained, it appeared that Ministers had never considered the matter at all, and had no idea how it was to be done. And yet unless some plan can be found for effectually checking the claims to a pension on the score of age there will be nothing to prevent anyone of sixty-five, or even sixty, from receiving a pension, and if that happens the whole financial basis of the scheme will disappear.

Surely the course of these debates must have given pause to that school of politicians which appears to regard the House of Commons as a kind of legislative sausage-machine whose efficiency depends entirely on the amount of its statutory output. People of this kind are in the habit of speaking contemptuously of the House of Commons as a talking shop, forgetting that in so describing it they are doing little more than translate into modern English the ancient appellation of "Parliament". The truth is that if the only object be to pass laws a body of six hundred and seventy gentlemen elected chiefly because they disagree with one another is almost ideally bad for the purpose. If the true function of the House is to test by debate the soundness of legislative proposals made to it by the Executive or by private members, then genuine freedom of discussion is essential for the proper discharge of its duties. Doubtless most of the speeches made are valueless; some of them may be intentionally obstructive. If means can be found to limit such utterances without curtailing legitimate debate, all lovers of the Constitution will rejoice. But if obstruction can only be restrained by the destruction of free debate, who can doubt that the days of the power of the House of Commons are numbered? That is a prospect of revolutionary significance which can only end, as we have often said, in bureaucracy or despotism.

DENVER DEMOCRACY.

IF noise and enthusiasm be pledges of success, the Democrats ought to win. The Denver Convention can boast an outburst of applause and shouting lasting one hour and twenty-five minutes. This is, we believe, a record in Convention uproar, for fifty minutes was thought good at Chicago. Mr. Bryan's followers went in with the conviction that they would win, and the result has justified their confidence. The fact that he has been twice beaten does not seem to affect the party, and this is perhaps as remarkable a tribute as could be paid to his personality. It was evident that any attempt to put forward a rival was doomed to failure. The last election in which an attempt was made by the conservative wing of the party to run a safe man in the person of Judge Parker proved far more disastrous to the Democrats than the two elections in which Mr. Bryan was defeated, nor has any conspicuous figure emerged since to dispute his pre-eminence. While there can be little doubt that Mr. Roosevelt would have carried the country had he stood again, there is no other name on the Republican side comparable in prestige with that of Bryan. He has also the great advantage of being well known by this time to the whole electorate. Judge Parker was a mere shadow. Mr. Bryan has been conspicuously before the country for ten years. This is no small asset to a candidate, and Mr. Bryan has known how to exploit it to the full; he has lectured, spoken and preached ubiquitously, which must tell heavily in his favour.

It is said that the difficulties of steering an even course so as not to alienate either the conservative or radical section of his party will be enormous, but we doubt if these difficulties are in fact much more serious than those which confront the Republicans. The Democrats have by force of events become more essentially radical, or rather socialistic, than the Republican party, which must remain the natural refuge of the plutocrats. Mr. Roosevelt may be, and doubtless is, just as sincere as Mr. Bryan in advocating better control of the trusts and railways, but it is quite clear that the controlling forces of the Republican party can

never allow it to become frankly socialistic in its aims and methods as the Democrats are rapidly showing themselves to be. There cannot be any genuine attempt to master the more sinister influences of vast wealth on the part of a political organisation which owes its success almost entirely to the contributions of the very wealthy. For that reason, in spite of the President's threats, the goldbugs and the trusts are always likely in the end to support a Republican rather than a Democrat. During this Presidential election campaign we shall undoubtedly find issues less confused than at the last. The object of Judge Parker was to look as much like Mr. Roosevelt as possible. This time it will be the object of Mr. Taft to persuade the electorate that he will be able to carry out with equal efficiency the reforms advocated by Mr. Bryan, but if the majority of the electors really desire reform they know perfectly well how enormously powerful are the interests arrayed against them within the Republican party itself. The Democrats, on the other hand, will not be hampered by the unreality of their own programme, nor will they be confronted by the overwhelming personality of Mr. Roosevelt. The advantage in that respect will rather be with them. Mr. Bryan is certainly a more considerable figure than Mr. Taft; as a matter of fact he has in him a touch of genius that Mr. Roosevelt himself lacked; but Mr. Roosevelt enjoyed a prestige and a reputation for public spirit even before he held office which was of incomparable value in electioneering. This advantage now lies with the Democrats.

It is just possible, too, that the Republicans may in the result be deprived of one of the best planks in their platform. If Commander Hobson's startling views are ultimately endorsed, we shall find the Democratic programme going not only much further than the Republican Legislature in the direction of imperialism, but also much further than Mr. Roosevelt. By adopting the plank of a larger navy the Convention would undoubtedly appeal to the strongest instincts of the Pacific Slope and might win for Mr. Bryan the votes of several States which are doubtful today. This would be, of course, a complete abandonment of the attitude hitherto adopted by the Democrats with regard to imperial matters, but the temptation to take the step is very strong, for the party would be thereby appealing to a popular instinct which would array the West solid on Mr. Bryan's side. The action of the Senate has undoubtedly left the field open. If Mr. Bryan were suddenly to wheel his forces round and pour them into this gap in the enemy's line, he would be only executing a manœuvre which has before now been successful in war, and might well prove equally useful in his political campaign. The defence against any charge of inconsistency is easy. The change of front can be explained as only made in response to an overwhelming popular demand for defence against Oriental aggression, and in no sense a concession to jingoism. But the tone of the Convention was not very favourable to the new departure.

For several reasons therefore the approaching contest seems likely to have features of much greater interest than the two preceding. It will be a more clearly defined struggle between plutocracy and socialistic tendencies. It is the moderate section of the Republican party which is putting forward and supporting Mr. Taft. They hope and believe that he will be less of a reformer than Mr. Roosevelt, and they think that the desire of the country for reform is much less strong than it was. Both the House and the Senate appear to take the same view, for they have both refused to adopt the President's policy. On the Labour question, even though the House has an election before it within six months, it refused to pass an anti-injunction law. The Republican policy is therefore clearly conservative and relies on the country becoming weary of legislation and distrustful of the President's aims. Mr. Bryan's policy will be to show that not only does he hold more advanced views than the President but that, if elected, he will be in a far better position for enforcing them. This looks more like a real issue than anything we have seen in Presidential contests for many a year.

THE NAVY AND WAR RISKS OF SHIPPING.

WE have purposely abstained from commenting on the unhappy conflict of admirals which recalls the days when the country and the Navy were divided into the adherents of Keppel on the one hand and Palliser on the other. We are emphatically of opinion that the large issues of policy are obscured by these personal rivalries, and it is perhaps fortunate that at this very moment there has been issued the report of the Committee on the War Risks of Shipping to recall to us the serious problems which the Navy ought wholeheartedly to face. The Committee arose out of the recommendation of "the Royal Commission on the Supply of Food and Raw Material during War" that the question of a national guarantee of merchant shipping during war should be investigated by a separate Committee. The curse of most Royal Commissions and Committees is to do their work under the restriction of strictly limited terms of reference which prevent them considering the question as a whole. Lord Balfour of Burleigh's Royal Commission had recommended that a small expert Committee "should be appointed to investigate the subject and frame a scheme". Happily Mr. Austen Chamberlain, as chairman of the Committee, has taken higher ground. Three drafts of schemes were secured for the guidance of witnesses, and the Committee refused to regard the question as by any manner of means settled. Finally they concluded that the safe arrival of ships and their cargoes could only be guaranteed by the Navy, and that a national guarantee could only tend to prevent shipowners laying up their ships, while the cumulative effect of the objections to the suggested schemes outweighed any possible advantages which might be obtained by them.

As the basis of their discussions the Committee laid down the obvious historical principle, which is too often neglected, that the British "fleet" should be strong enough to secure and maintain the command of the sea. Incidentally we may express our dislike of the use of this word "fleet" to describe a Navy consisting of several fleets, for we believe it to be the parent of all the erroneous conceptions involved in such phrases as "the absence of the fleet". To this day we find statesmen who believe that when Nelson pursued Villeneuve to the West Indies the country was left defenceless, whereas the bulk of the British Navy remained behind in home waters. Villeneuve was met on his return by Calder's fleet, and this by no means exhausted the fleets available to defend our shores. Concerning the effect of war on insurance rates, the Committee naturally found the experts at variance within a wide range of mere guess-work. The risks to merchant shipping are inversely proportionate to the risks to the enemy's cruisers. If by a relentless hunt we make it too hot for the enemy to show, the risks are negligible. This is what the Japanese effected at Port Arthur, but in doing this availed themselves of their entire resources, so that the Vladivostock cruisers would have been a threat of the most alarming character had not the whole of Japanese commerce been transferred to neutral bottoms. Such a transfer could not be effected in the case of British commerce on account of its extent. If, on the other hand, we had continued to pursue the policy of recent years, abstaining altogether from building fast small cruisers while scrapping numerous vessels of older type, and if we had based our plans on fallacious doctrines that commerce can look after itself, the risks would necessarily become so large as to engender panic and thereby upset strategical plans for concentrating our fighting forces. The Admiralty speciously argued that by building only large armoured ships they were following out the first principle of concentration by which battles are won. They utterly failed to realise that the Germans were building small unarmoured ships of twenty-four knots or more at the rate of two a year, or if they did note this fact they neglected to take into account that these vessels would have to be hunted down. In default of vessels of similar type for this work we should have to waste our large armoured ships on hunting down these commerce destroyers. This would make for defeat.

Sir Robert Giffen declared that the immediate effect of war between this country and a first-class Power would not improbably be a financial panic of unprecedented dimensions and a suspension of specie payments as in 1797. "The question would be whether anybody could live through." While we believe the view of the eminent statistician to be unduly pessimistic, it is pertinent to point out, in view of the discussion on Monday next on our shipbuilding vote, which is the lowest for many years, that the one safeguard against panic and the one insurance of peace is an adequate Navy, and we are only encouraging Germany by lowering our expenditure on the material of the Navy to such a point that in an official answer in Parliament it was stated to be only 11½ millions sterling as compared with 9½ millions sterling for Germany. There is very little here of the two-to-one standard which Mr. Stead so vociferously demanded some time ago.

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION—A REPLY.

ECCLESIASTICAL controversy is inseparable from a communion like that of the Church of England. It will do no harm if conducted in a sober spirit, and if the language used by those who challenge accepted principles is accurate and unsensational. Especially so when the path leads them

"per ignes
Suppositos cineri doloso",

since to touch rashly the smouldering embers of the fierce controversies of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is to sport with ecclesiastical dynamite. It is our complaint against Canon Henson's sermon on Reunion that it was calculated to depress the faithful, to supply material to the Roman controversialist and to raise expectations among Protestant Nonconformists that cannot be realised. The Canon complains that we have misinterpreted him. He never, he informs us, asked the Lambeth Conference to "commit an act of suicide" by declaring "that episcopacy means nothing". If such was not his intention, most of his readers have we fear entirely misinterpreted him. However, we will take his exact words. After a drastic criticism of the historic episcopate as a divinely ordered basis of Church government comes this conclusion: "I plead for the frank recognition of those non-episcopal Churches which can agree with us on essentials of Faith and Morality, and in the reverent use of the Dominical Sacraments." These words if taken in their natural sense ask the Church of Laud and Jeremy Taylor to make an unconditional surrender to the spiritual heirs of Calvin and Cromwell. But Canon Henson tells us that this is not the true meaning. The faith which he desires to be proclaimed to certain non-episcopal Churches is that episcopacy is a good thing, but that it is not a necessity, not an "*articulus stantis vel cadentis ecclesiæ*". Later on we shall have a word to say on the striking contrast between the general statement of the sermon and the guarded qualification of the letter. First, however, we shall deal with the explanation on its merits, and our answer is that if episcopacy is not of the *de esse* of the Church it will be no easy task for Canon Henson or anyone else to prove to Anglicans or Nonconformists that it is of the *de bene esse* of religion. The history alike of Puritanism and Methodism would in that case suggest the opposite conclusion.

Canon Henson must admit that since 1662 Anglicanism has been linked with the principle of the historic episcopate; yet he asks us to throw aside two centuries and a half of history to return to the theological beliefs of the early seventeenth century and to act as though the Caroline Act of Uniformity and the Oxford Movement had never been. Salvation by archaeology, as he has himself reminded us, is an interesting, but hardly a promising proposition. But in no honest sense can it be maintained that the attitude of Elizabethan or Caroline Anglicanism to this question of orders was substantially different from that of the post-Restoration Church of England. The true position of the Elizabethan reformers finds unanswerable expression in the preface to the ordinal, an ordinal which, as that preface states, was drawn up

with the object that the pre-Reformation offices of bishop, priest and deacon should be "continued and reverently used and esteemed in the Church of England". If these words are not sufficiently clear to Canon Henson, let him hear the comment on them of a man who can surely speak for Puritanism, John Penry. "Our priests have the same office", says that turbulent and bitter-tongued dissenter, "with the Popish Sacrificers"; and again: "He that is made a minister in some reformed Church beyond the sea is not capable of the cure of souls in a parish in this land except he shall have a deaconrie and a priesthood after the order of our land". But, says Canon Henson, the door to ecclesiastical preferment was not absolutely closed against non-episcopalians until the fatal Uniformity Act of 1662. The argument is often used: but any lawyer knows that it proves too much. The intrusion of laymen and even children into benefices both with and without cure of souls was a pre-Reformation scandal common to the whole of Europe. When once a layman had been admitted in due form to a living, he could only be ejected by proceedings for deprivation taken in the ecclesiastical Courts. A layman or a Presbyterian minister who held a cure in the Elizabethan Church was, in fact, in the same position as a man who married his deceased wife's sister before the Lyndhurst Act. He held the cure by a tenure that was voidable, but not void. It is impossible to urge that the Act (13 Eliz. c. 12) "to reform certain disorders touching ministers of the Church" could have revolutionised the whole Elizabethan settlement of religion as Canon Henson imagines. Had this been the intention it would have been stated in very different language. Its object was simply to compel subscription to the Thirty-nine Articles. In truth the Caroline Act of Uniformity in no way altered the principle of the law. Neither before it nor after it could a person not episcopally ordained legally hold a living in the Church of England. Before the Act his appointment to it was voidable. After the Act his appointment was void. The Act in this respect merely effected a useful change in legal procedure.

It is on the other hand perfectly true, as we stated in our former article, that some of our seventeenth-century Anglican divines showed a dislike to condemn the Presbyterian orders of foreign Protestant Churches. Engaged as they were in a desperate struggle, theological and political, with the counter Reformation, they naturally shrank from censuring useful allies whose Church administration was no concern of theirs. It was, too, quite natural that for an eminent scholar in Presbyterian orders like Casaubon a sinecure should have been found in the shape of a Canterbury prebend. (As for Saravia, whom Canon Henson also mentions, it is hardly credible that he had not been reordained, seeing that he roundly censures the attitude of Presbyterian ministers in the Channel Islands who deemed episcopal reordination unnecessary. "You not being made Ministers of the Church", he says, "by your Bishop, nor by his Dimissioner nor by any according to the Order of the English Church are not true and lawful Ministers".) Still, in all the circumstances of this case, it is wonderful how little positive evidence can be adduced in support of the view that Anglican bishops regarded foreign Presbyterian orders as valid for clergymen over whom they exercised jurisdiction. Bramhall, to take only one instance, and that from one of Canon Henson's authorities, reordained a Presbyterian minister, Edward Parkinson, and explained that this action was taken, not to condemn the orders of foreign Churches, but, in his own words, "ut schismatis tollatur occasio". (By the way, a reunion of Christendom on Archbishop Bramhall's lines will be quite satisfactory to High Churchmen if Canon Henson can arrange it.) But the strongest words of all come from Jeremy Taylor. The following passage ("Works", vol. vii. p. 141) shows that a deep sympathy with foreign Protestant Churches was perfectly consistent with the most extreme assertion of the episcopalian principle:

"But shall we then condemn those few of the reformed Churches, whose ordinations have always been without bishops? No indeed: that must not be; they stand or fall to their own master. And though I cannot justify their ordinations, yet what degree

their necessity is of, what their desire of episcopal ordination may do for their personal excuse, and how far a good life or a catholic belief may lead a man to Heaven, although the forms of external communion be not observed, I cannot determine." For members of the Church of England, the writer continues, it were better to die "than lose the sacred order and offices of episcopacy, without which no priest, no ordination, no consecration of the sacrament, no absolution, no rite or sacrament, legitimately can be performed in order to eternity."

To turn from the past to the present. Canon Henson's suggestion that the recognition of non-episcopal Churches for which he pleads should in the first instance be limited to foreign communions and the established Kirk of Scotland would, if carried out, only inflame the bitterness of Nonconformity. The hostility of Dissent to the Church is mainly envy of the supposed privileged position of the Establishment, as the evidence placed before the Welsh Church Commission has shown. For Anglicanism to grant a recognition to the Moderator of the established Kirk that she refused to Dr. Clifford would naturally inflame the sore. Nevertheless, that Canon Henson thinks it wise to qualify his proposals, as he has in his letter, proves that even he shrinks from the one logical conclusion to his own denial of the priesthood. In effect he now only asks the Lambeth Fathers to say to certain non-episcopal and established Communions: "We allow that you are just as much part of the visible Church Catholic as we are ourselves. Only, please note, episcopacy is a very useful thing that we ourselves intend to keep". In a word the Lambeth Conference by sending to the world an evangel of "Protestantism tempered by establishment" is to declare the spiritual and intellectual barrenness of Anglicanism.

Our differences from Canon Henson do not blind us to the chivalry of his ideas. We sympathise with his perpetual protest against the smug complacency of modern Anglicanism, though his protest may take a wrong direction. Our regret is that like Dean Stanley he makes it his task to press the rue for wine, to seek the solution of our spiritual difficulties in an undenominational compromise and an unspiritual Erastianism. It is melancholy to see him turning in scorn alike from those ages of the Church which the Anglican divines of yore specially revered and from those principles of ecclesiastical polity for which Anglicans of a bygone day cheerfully gave their lives. We admit that the age of Gregory of Tours and Gildas was not ideal; but does anyone suppose that if the Church had offered nothing better to the barbarian than the gospel of Cowper-Temple, it would have survived the wreck of classic civilisation? We admit, also, that Anglicanism often unduly exults in its retention of the constitution of the early ages of the Church. Yet the historic episcopate is still its most precious heirloom, for it is the possession that gives to the Church of England a place in Christendom that no other Church among the reformed Communions can claim. While Anglicanism retains this historic possession it holds the beacon, which, as De Maistre saw, may yet guide the severed communities of Christendom into unity. If it abandons this heirloom, it will not win a Protestantism to which it will have nothing to offer. It will have admitted that for those who desire historic and dogmatic Christianity, who prefer the Catholic to the Genevan constitution of the Church, there is no place outside the Roman and the Eastern Churches.

CRITICASTERS OF OXFORD.

"BE a reformer but don't talk about it" was the advice of a famous Master of Balliol to a famous Headmaster of Eton. Possibly we have not got the quotation exactly textual. We are not quite sure that the words may not have been "but don't show it" or "don't let others know it"; but we believe the first version is correct. Anyway there can be no doubt of the spirit of the Master of Balliol's parting words to the new Headmaster of Eton, who had called on his appointment. We are reminded, paradoxically, of this piece of ripe worldly wisdom—and sincerity—by the newspaper

critics of Oxford, who, reversing the Master of Balliol's rule, are not reformers but do talk much about it. Hardly a day, certainly never a week, goes by without some professor or some anonymous tutor occupying half a column, if he is especially terse and has something to say, or, if he is an average letter-writing don, one to two or perhaps three columns, in demonstrating to the world that the University of which he is one of the pillars is tottering to its fall. If one could be sure of Samson's fate overtaking these babbling prophets of evil, there would be consolation even for the boredom of seeing their letters in the papers; compensation for the labour of reading them there could not be. It is possible, though we should say it was a rare case, that these little critics know themselves well enough to doubt any letters of theirs seriously affecting anything. They cannot believe that any strictures of theirs could really touch Oxford. So why should they deny their little souls the pleasure of appearing in the papers? It delights them and hurts nobody. The attitude is becoming we admit: neither do we like to say they underrate their powers; which would imply more imagination in them than we have perceived. But they do underrate their numbers. Rapt in the contemplation of his own letter to the editor, the "Oxford Tutor" knows no other letter-writer but himself; he is oblivious not only of the other eleven, not only of "Lambda", but of the myriads who are doing precisely the same as he is. The parable of the coral insect as a constructor has its destructive parallels. There are insects almost unperceivable in their minuteness, which one at a time are totally insignificant, but multiplied indefinitely are more deadly than the biggest beast. These little critics of Oxford should take this parable from nature to heart. Then they might realise that even their drip and drizzle of complaint may in the end wear very good solid stone.

We necessarily sympathise with the bigger minds, the men who are persuaded that their letters will cause explosions and mean them to, for whom a college common room or an Hebdomadal Council or Congregation or Convocation is all too cramped a sphere for their noble powers. One can understand Dr. Rashdall, for instance, or President Case, breathing better in the larger air of the London press. Such men, of course, were meant to be leaders of the nation instead of academics. But we would with much deference point out to these giant critics that the real big men of action do not write letters to the papers, except when they have to correct a mistake or to meet some emergency. No great man airs his views "promiscuously like". He knows that real work is not done that way. The reformer who is in earnest does not address an anonymous public; he does not shoot arrows in the air.

What does it matter, then? These newspaper critics and reformers will not bring about their reforms. Theirs is not the way to set about it. No one, certainly, will cry over their failure. Unfortunately, those who are powerless to do anything themselves are not always powerless to prevent others doing something; at any rate, to get in their way and make progress difficult. Of course these letters and articles have no effect on those who know; they do not affect the judgment of those who will have to act and are acting. But they may affect the infinitely larger number who have no knowledge of Oxford and have never given a thought to education. But such men would not read these letters: they would not interest them. Naturally not; they would be strange men if these letters did interest them. But what the average reader does is to glance over his paper, dipping into everything. He just dips into these Oxford letters and gets away from them as quick as he can—but the touch on the surface was enough for him to take the feeling that Oxford is in a parlous way. If day by day the average reader finds in his paper someone attacking Oxford, some paid member of the teaching staff of the University railing at his employer's shortcomings, can he escape the impression of continuous merely destructive criticism? He must get the idea that everything is all wrong at Oxford, that she is senile, probably past reform, in fact a practically hopeless case. It is bad to produce a condition of mere unsettlement. But to leave a downright pessimistic

impression is worse. And that is what this host of midge-critics is doing. Nearly every man, or midge, amongst them is hoping directly or indirectly to benefit by Lord Curzon's Oxford Appeal Fund. Does he think that this eternal round of barren carping is going to prepare the ground favourably for this appeal? If he knows anything at all, he must know that most men will not give money to anything if they can find a decent excuse for refusing. What better excuse for delay or even for refusal could there be than that Oxford is obviously in a state of complete unrest? He will wait to see how things turn out before he commits himself. Still more decisive, if he says, I never take up the "Times" without reading some Oxford man's indictment of Oxford; the place is evidently rotten. No doubt it may be said that this eternal criticism cannot in fact have done much harm, seeing that the Oxford appeal is a great success. It is a success, but a large sum is required yet; and it is over a long period that the depressing influence of barren criticism tells.

Of course, we are trying to stifle criticism, to hush up scandals, to screen defects, &c., &c. For that sort of talk we care nothing. We know the facts. We know that the ablest minds in Oxford, and some of the ablest Oxford men without, are devoting hard thought to University reform, that they are actually making it a fact; that much has already been done. These are the men who will do it, if it is done; and their difficult task cannot be helped by irresponsible chatter without. Two newspapers, the "Times" and the "Westminster Gazette", have been especially responsible for encouraging this itch to stick pins into Oxford. Both these newspapers are edited by distinguished Oxford men. Will they not put Oxford first and journalistic enterprise second? Neither Oxford reform nor any other plant can ever grow, if worried by excessive attention.

THE CITY.

THE sensation of the week has been the sudden issue of £5,000,000 Irish Land Stock (2½ per cent.) at 89½. The issue was no surprise to us, for we have been telling our readers for months past that the condition of land purchase in Ireland was such that an early issue was inevitable. And these issues must continue for many years to come, as only £31,351,000 has been issued at present out of a total required of £112,000,000. It is therefore impossible that the old Consols, the Two-and-a-Halves, can rise until this £80,000,000 of Irish Land Stock is worked off. As the proper price, in present market conditions, of the Two-and-Three-quarters is 92½, there was naturally a great scramble amongst the high financiers and the trust companies to get allotments of the new issue. The prospect of a certain 3 per cent. profit in a few days seems to have almost made a good many people mad, and we quite believe that the new stock was applied for thirty or forty times over. This means that cheques to the tune of seven or eight million pounds were sent in as application money, and yet we are told that everybody is hard up! The "stags" however were not allowed by the Bank of England to "drink their fill", for they only got 3 per cent. of their applications. We know a member of the species, quite a monarch of the glen, who applied for £100,000, and was much disgusted by only getting £3,000. As it is possible that some of these gentlemen may have sold at all events a portion of their applications in anticipation of allotment, the new stock is likely to be at a premium for a little time; but if people will only be patient they will get it at the issue price very shortly. A very different fate befell a simultaneous issue of 5 per cent. bonds by the Cordoba Central Buenos Ayres Extension Railway at 90, which were underwritten for a commission of 3 per cent. This is certainly not to be compared with a British Government issue; but the bond is a good one, and is guaranteed for five years by the Cordoba Central Railway. Well, the public would have none of it, and the underwriters had to take up the whole of their contracts. A new issue that is strangely neglected at 88½ is that of the 3½ per cent. bonds of the Agricultural Bank of Egypt. These bonds are unconditionally

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guaranteed by the Egyptian Government, which is of course the same thing as the British Government, and therefore they ought to stand at the same price as Indian Three-and-a-Halves, namely, at par. Anybody who buys these bonds at their present price of 88½ is bound to make a profit of 10 per cent. in the next six months, unless the prospect of next year's Budget is going to paralyse the Stock Exchange.

We wish the Electric Taxicab Company, with its issue of £300,000 shares at par, all the prosperity in the world, for we regard it as, in a sense, a public benefactor. The General and United Motor Cab companies (which have now amalgamated), had become, like all monopolists, a little spoiled by success. The drivers are not as civil as they were, which may be due to their making too much or too little. Rumour whispers the latter, and that we are to have a motor-cab strike in the autumn. Be that as it may, we welcome the Electric Taxicab Company as a competitor, though whether the shares are a good investment we are not competent to say. The board is a good one, and we are glad to see that the directors' remuneration is not, as is too often the case, unreasonably low. It is impossible to expect competent men to devote any time or thought to the management of the shareholders' business unless they are reasonably paid, and everything depends on management in a concern like the Electric Taxicab Company. Economy in details, nice calculation of expenses, and a proper allowance for depreciation, these are the factors of success in this and similar undertakings.

The general markets have been in a state of complete stagnation. Occasionally there is a little spurt for a few days, and then prices slip back. This is very trying to people who are foolish enough to be carrying-over for the rise or the fall, as it simply means paying brokers' commissions, interest on borrowed money, and differences, which though slight are annoying. But if people like to pay for and take up their purchases, the dividend-paying Kaffirs are at the present time good investments. The industry on the Rand is doing remarkably well; the cost of production is being steadily reduced, and dividends are rolling on, and will continue to do so for some time to come at all events. East Rands for instance at their present price of 4 yield a return of 10 per cent., and in our opinion these shares may be relied on to pay from 40 to 45 per cent. in dividends for some years. Now that the East Rand Proprietary has absorbed the Angelo Cason and Comet companies the new share capital will be over £4,000,000, which will make the market a free and active one. Seeing that these shares went to 9½ in 1905, when they were not worth as much as they are now, there is, besides the dividend of 4s. 6d. per share in August, considerable room for a rise in capital value, while lower than 3 they cannot possibly fall. The extraordinary interest of London in mining enterprise during the last twenty years makes it remarkable in these days of exhibitions that we have not long since had a big mining show, such as Lord Strathcona is to open at Olympia to-day. The exhibition has been organised by Mr. Greville Montgomery and will enable the public to follow the miners' operations through their various stages.

INSURANCE—ATLAS REMINISCENT.

ONCE again it is our pleasant task to congratulate an insurance company upon a completed century of existence. The Atlas Assurance Company has recently been celebrating its centenary to the accompaniment of the good wishes of the chief officials of many rival offices and of others interested in insurance matters. In "Atlas Reminiscent" Mr. Alfred W. Yeo, the fire manager of the company, tells something of the story which commenced in Cheapside a hundred years ago. The preliminary meetings of the founders of the Atlas were held in Wills' Coffee House, but almost immediately it acquired property in Cheapside, where it has remained from that day to this, enlarging the offices about every five-and-twenty years. From the outset the company transacted both fire and life insurance, and it is only quite recently that it has commenced accident and workmen's compensation

insurance. In all its branches it has done well for its policyholders. The first bonus in the life assurance branch was declared in 1823, when the policyholders received nearly 2 per cent. per annum on the sums assured. The investments of the Society were successfully managed. At the outset most of the capital subscribed was invested in 3 per cents., which increased from 67 to 95 in the course of some fifteen years. The deed of settlement of the Atlas was drawn by Mr. Sugden, afterwards Lord St. Leonards, and one of the most famous actuaries of the company was Mr. Ansell, to whom the actuarial profession is indebted to this day. The company has been very successful in the choice of men: the present manager has been conspicuously successful in the development of the company, which has a reputation of being an office from which the officials do not migrate. Men of its own training represent it now all over the world, and the value of this personal attachment to the company is a distinct factor in the production of good results for the policyholders. Among its agents at the present time are some firms which have been connected with the company since its beginning, and quite numerous firms who have acted for the Atlas for fifty years or more.

Sometimes when we see many insurance men together we recognise very forcibly a fact which it is difficult to make the public understand, namely the value of personality in insurance work. Doubtless it tells equally in other spheres, but insurance companies work on so large a scale, and good management means so much to so many, that its value strikes the imagination forcibly. Another fact, more conspicuous than in most forms of business, is the integrity and straightness of the men who lead in the insurance community; they have inherited from the past, and they maintain in the present, a tradition that security must be paramount, that the interests of policyholders is the great thing to look after, and that their dealings, if they deviate from justice, must err on the side of generosity. In the long run these principles conduce to commercial success, but there are many occasions when it must seem as if the temporary adoption of more usual commercial standards would pay better. In the great majority of cases the temptation to abandon the old traditions is avoided, not so much because the public might find it out as because insurance opinion would be against such action.

This high standard the Atlas has maintained throughout its career. There was a time when it failed to make progress, and indeed made the mistake of abandoning local boards through which a fair amount of business was done just at the time when other companies were establishing branch offices in the provincial towns. The Atlas, with its local committees, was well suited for making this new departure, but it let the opportunity slip and had to take this step many years later when the branches of other companies were well established.

To-day, however, the Atlas is prudently progressive. Not seeking magnitude at the expense of merit, it is able to expand because of the undoubted security for policyholders in all its branches and of the liberality with which it treats them. A good instance of this is to be found in the large surrender values which it gives on life policies, a fact that if properly appreciated would often determine a policyholder to select the Atlas in preference to some other company. It is one of the comparatively few offices where a person can take a policy of any kind in the full confidence that he will not go far wrong, and it is one that enters upon its second century with every prospect of prosperity and with the good wishes of those who care for insurance at its best.

"IMPERIAL HOME RULE."

By "PAT".

HOME Rule as an Imperial Proposition becomes distinctly interesting; and the Imperial Home Rulers, who have just added one to the organisations in Ireland, "decline to consider any of their proposals apart from the advantage of the Empire as a whole". This will require Irish Nationalists to understand the Imperial structure, and if they succeed in the attempt,

they must become more intelligible Imperialists than the average Englishman, whose knowledge is still rather vague as to the irregular complexities of the system that is supposed to bind the various parts of the Empire together.

An Imperial spirit in the demand for Home Rule, instead of depending on rebels' contributions, is a novelty that we can all welcome without controversy; but I do not think that the leaders of the new movement have yet arrived at more than elementary notions as to the Imperial side of the problem. Their meaning seems to be to this effect: "The relations between the Empire and its parts require readjustment, and Ireland, as one of the parts, will accept her place, in the class of countries having legislative self-government." If this be the suggestion, it is not quite new, for Nationalist members of Parliament have demanded that Ireland, in the character of a colony, should have a voice in the Colonial Conferences for the improvement of Imperial relationships. These Conferences are necessarily defined to represent States already in existence, not to consider the creation of additional States, which excludes Ireland, at least technically; but that is only a small part of the difficulty in regard to "Imperial Home Rule", assuming the intention to be as I have just stated.

If our new Nationalists want their demand to be for "the advantage of the Empire as a whole", they must have regard to the dominant tendencies of our Imperial evolution; they will not want to propose something quite in opposition to what practice and experience have found increasingly insistent in the growth and working of our inter-Imperial relationships.

In Great Britain as well as in Ireland the popular notion of our Imperialism implies a set of associated States, each with its parallel relations to what we call "the mother country", and the case of Ireland, assuming loyalty, might fit into such a conception; but the Imperial evolution moves much faster than the popular conception of it, and on increasingly contrary lines. The Imperial structure has already become quite different, and grows more different every day.

It would be much nearer to the fact, and quite in accordance with the dominant tendency, to describe the British Empire as a series of smaller Empires inside a big one (with signs in some cases of a desire to get outside it); and in accordance with this tendency, the joint sanction of the Empire as a whole, defined by the Conferences, is clearly displacing "the mother country" as the central authority in interests common to all. There is no apparent desire or need to deprive John Bull of the spokesmanship for the big family, but there is a distinct desire, already determined in conference, to limit his authority to spokesmanship, with the lines laid down for him by the Empire as a whole. In one way, it looks like putting the members of the Imperial family farther apart, with the mother country relaxing her grip on the system; but in another way, and a much more essential one, it draws the members of the family closer together, making each more directly responsible to the will of all. The mother country gives up some of her supremacy as Imperial Pope, but on the other hand the average member becomes less free to drag the whole family into war without having consulted the joint sanction. In other words, the joint authority comes to be defined in a code equivalent to inter-Imperial statutes, and not determined by the undefined initiative of any one member of the Imperial family.

For generations, the Canadian Constitution has approximated to an Imperial system in itself, with a Central Government and with a number of associated Legislatures accommodating the differentiations of need, race and place within the dominion. The new Commonwealth of Australia, unifying the joint sanction of five Legislatures hitherto jostling each other to the common detriment, is a distinct effort towards the Canadian principle; and the practice of a few years has already raised a demand for still closer centralisation of common interests, as for example in more unified borrowing powers, increasing the effective credit of each by clubbing the effective security of all.

Our new Constitutions in South Africa have hardly begun to work when we find an agitation for such legislative union as may enable a "United South Africa" to act as one authority in interests common to all; and

the various Legislatures are already approving the reference for an inter-State Convention to determine a new Constitution on the basis of closer Unionism. With Canada already fixed, and with Australia and South Africa following so rapidly, can there be any doubt as to the inevitable tendencies of our Imperial evolution? There are a few small outstanding exceptions, and the Newfoundland anomaly shows us how unfortunate they are liable to become. At the present moment, there is more acute trouble over Newfoundland than over all the other colonies together, and mainly because Newfoundland chooses to remain outside the Canadian Federation, thereby depriving herself of the force with which her rights might be asserted against the bluff of American diplomacy.

Constituted a State on "the Colonial analogy", Ireland would have to begin by borrowing money; and with the indebtedness of her unproductive agrarianism already actually depressing the credit of the Imperial Treasury, I do not see how she could, on her own security, float a loan in any money market of the world unless at ruinous rates of interest, not to mention many equally impracticable features of Imperial Home Rule on the Colonial formula. Assuming the best, which is at the best speculative, she might economise on the present cost of government, but that, at most, would afford but a poor fraction of the means necessary to her development as a self-supporting State, while there is no resource whatever between that and borrowing. She would probably not be a year "on her own" before she came back begging for fiscal reunion with the British Treasury, and meantime she would be exactly in the position by which Newfoundland is now making so much trouble for Canada and the home Government. On the other hand, with the countries of the Empire grouping themselves as I have shown, each group of Legislatures forming one Imperial unit, why should not these islands and nationalities at home evolve their own associated Legislatures, and constitute an Imperial unit in themselves, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man standing each towards the central authority as the Legislatures of Canada now stand towards their own central authority? This would give Ireland practically all she demands as a legislative expression of her distinctive nationality, and it would not eject her into the "Independent" pauperism inseparable from her condition in the Colonial analogy, with her evil reputation as to the rights of property and her future credit based on a background of bankruptcy. I am quite free from prejudice as to breaking and making precedents, knowing that all real progress is in a sense unprecedented; but I rely wholly on the inherent facts of the situation for the practical impossibility of Irish Home Rule on the popular definition, even apart from the rebel equation and the absence of anything like a free public opinion among the Irish people themselves. This week we have the "Freeman's Journal", while trading in Separatism, confessing that Ireland could not possibly meet even her present financial liabilities without the assistance of the Imperial credit; and the need for such assistance would obviously be increased by Separation, especially if the methods of the "Freeman's Journal" were continued.

As an institution increasingly unequal to its increasingly complex functions, the Imperial Parliament might enact a Federation Statute, under which each section of the British and Irish populations could set up legislative housekeeping in its own distinctive sphere whenever it pleased, with the various households still united and co-operating in such concerns of common interest as experience has shown to operate ruinously under more widely separate definitions. The practical needs here at home are exactly such as are now driving our fellow Imperialists elsewhere into closer co-operation for the common good, and a decaying country cannot well hope to overcome the evil which has proved too much for prosperous and progressive ones. In the new needs evolved by modern conditions we cannot safely occupy our minds merely with obsolete propositions that might have had some relevance in the different conditions of the past. Parliament itself has practically broken down. Its painful failure can be seen in the faces of the Ministers of the Crown, who are expected

to combine the insight of a philosopher with the physical endurance of a navy. With the increasing complexity of the social organism, the legislative needs multiply while the Parliamentary mechanism remains fixed.

If the Imperial Home Rulers present their plea in accordance with the tendencies of the present and the needs of the future, I see no reason why the British public should not face the problem at once—even on the expectation that the new Constitution may put the rebel out of Irish public life and provide the means to a free public opinion in Ireland. What I value most in the new movement, however, is its determination to make Home Rule honest and to impress the value of an honest conception of it on the Irish public mind. Honesty will make for truth, and truth is the first of Ireland's necessities.

THE GREY MOUNTAIN.

BY HERBERT VIVIAN.

THE name of Montenegro is a calumny. All the grandeur, all the austerity, all the Highland pride are displayed. But there is no suggestion of Erebus, no black frown, no sullen seclusion. It might be renamed the Mountain of the Moon, for it is a silvery expanse of grey craters, ungrateful to all attempts at cultivation—an ideal lair for noble, hospitable, great-hearted gentlemen of the old school, heroes after the heart of Sir Walter Scott. A Montenegrin who stands less than six feet six inches in his socks is viewed in the light of a dwarf. All are worthy denizens of the kingdom of Brobdingnag. With an arsenal of long knives and loaded pistols in their capacious belts, they stalk along the streets with the gait of a grenadier and an expression of divine right. Menial work is outside their ken, but they can climb like goats, ride like centaurs, fight like Trojans. They have the old-fashioned virtues: generosity, loyalty, courage, and self-respect. I am curious to see how they will assimilate themselves to ideas of modern progress.

For modern progress is upon them. It began with the smooth white road which wriggles up their grim precipice, enabling foreigners and sightseers to creep like flies up the face of a wall. There is talk of a motor service in the autumn; there is hope of a railway which shall run from the terminus of the continental system at Mitrovitsa through the principality to the wonderful natural harbour of Antivari. As the Prince recently remarked, Nature having preferred Antivari before San Giovanni di Medua, it is to be expected that Nature and common-sense will prevail. Diplomats may scheme and argue and intrigue, but a port which is incessantly being filled with sand is no match for the logic of a ready-made haven. Mediaeval minds will shrink from the consequences of modern development. They will picture a Montenegrin turning his good sword into an indifferent ploughshare or endeavouring to obtain by commercial cunning what has always been the perquisite of his strong right arm. But those of us who know him and his history remain confident that he is not to be spoiled by contact with the Spirit of the Age. He has even weathered the sudden shock of an unsolicited constitution. It is true that the childhood of Montenegro as a constitutional country has been attended, as the Prince expresses it, with some of the disorders of childhood. But the infection was of foreign origin, and the experience has left the patient strengthened and immune.

The particular infection came from Belgrade, where regicide rule accords with Disraeli's definition of the Spirit of the Age—hostility to kings and gods. The recent state trial at Cetinje has proved that Peter Karageorgević and his son and his prime minister and his private secretary and others of his blood-stained adherents provided bombs, money, and other sympathetic encouragement for the removal of the whole royal family of Montenegro. It was the natural corollary to the establishment of a government by regicides, a mere extension of regicide principles from the Palace to the Foreign Office. Having seized one throne with swords and revolvers, it was perhaps not unreasonable to attempt to secure another with the help of infernal machines. But the friends of the red

King have overreached themselves, and the result of their attempt to stir up revolution in Montenegro has been to emphasise the enthusiastic devotion which the whole people cherishes towards a patriarchal and patriotic ruler. Indeed, the warmest partisans of the new Constitution are now pathetically lamenting the hopelessness of persuading anybody to remain a member of the Opposition. How is it possible, they enquire, to develop a constitutional system with only one party? But, short of a royal order to form an Opposition, all persist in ranging themselves on the side of authority—at any rate, until the memory of recent treason and plot shall have faded away.

While religiously endorsing democratic principles at home, I permit myself some slight hesitation as to their immediate application in a patriarchal principality. When Prince Nicholas playfully said to me that a comparison of Serbia with Montenegro might prove unfavourable to uncommercial mountaineers, I ventured to protest that Liberty was still to be found among his people. He replied with a smile that the Servians had progress, but that progress might sometimes be carried too far. I thought this a delightfully epigrammatic way of implying that murder should remain a home industry. Murder may be an easy path to revolution, but not necessarily to law and order. Even Cromwell had his troubles; Peter and Pashitch have had little else. Zimri is trembling in his shoes.

Macedonia is persistently kept in the air. The visit to Reval was intended, at least by Sir Edward Grey, to facilitate his scheme for the pacification of Macedonia. I venture to suggest that, if Macedonia is to be pacified, the ideal arbitrator may be found in Crna Gora. While other Christian rulers have vied with one another in promoting disorder, Prince Nicholas has maintained an attitude of more than benevolent neutrality. Every day there are outrages in Albania at the expense of Montenegrin Christians, and no voice is raised on behalf of the patient mountaineers. Thus does virtue remain, as usual, its own reward.

A selfish person might desire to keep the discovery of a new pleasure-ground to himself, but I feel that Montenegro is sufficiently remote to remain for a long time immune from the irruption of tourist hordes. Yet there is perhaps no reason why the same persons who are conducted by Mr. Cook to the fjords of Norway and who desecrate even the sacred places of Palestine should not be attracted to mysterious Montenegro. The approach by the Dalmatian Coast offers all the allurements of rugged and fantastic scenery, glowing seas and skies, architectural marvels, infinite opportunities for ethnological research. Pola affords one of the most perfect amphitheatres in the world, greater than El Jem, more convincing than the Colosseum; Split is a town within a palace, a wondrous monument to the imperialism of Diocletian; impregnable Dubrovnik hugging herself in her dour battlements serves to sober the traveller's mind before he steams into the blue maze of the delightful Bocche di Cattaro.

Now he must prepare himself to climb straight up into the Principality of Once-upon-a-time. For hours and hours he will wind his way up the broad road which resembles a white ribbon fastened to the breast of a great grey rock. At every turn he will be confronted by forts and emphatic warnings against the photography of forts; at every corner he will come upon groups of Austrian soldiers learning to take cover where no cover is; and when at last he has escaped to the free air of Montenegro, his ears are still assailed by the grim farewell of Austrian rifle-ranges. Now indeed he is in another realm, the realm of imagination. What strange possibilities are suggested by the vast stretches of volcanic stone-land with scarcely a sign of possible habitation save a rare cottage or an antre in the distant hills. What a scene for a romance and all the thrills of wild warfare, hairbreadth 'scapes, perils in imminent deadly precipices. Stretching the fancy beyond all limits of probability, let us suppose a revolution in Montenegro and set our hero the task of escaping from terrorists while the broad white road is occupied and guns are bristling behind every boulder. Happily, however, the air whispers of the profoundest peace, and such an air it is, so tonic, so vivifying, that the most timid mortal might easily be inspired to daring

deeds. Let a man once find himself at the top of the Montenegrin pass and the intoxication of its oxygen will teach him at the first breath to understand how it came to pass that Montenegrins grew up a race of heroes.

Down in the hollow of a second crater are the pink and white houses of Cetinje glistening in the sunshine or twinkling a welcome to the more prudent pilgrim of the night. The houses have spread themselves out and decked themselves with verdure and left themselves ample room for expansion. This is well, for Cetinje grows apace. Indeed the peasants of the interior have already begun to view with anxiety the growth of town life and an increasing burgherdom. In old days, the chief if not the only means of livelihood was provided by unceasing warfare with the hereditary foe. Then came piping times of comparative peace, and refuge was taken in the kindred exercise of contraband. But even this became unprofitable with the advent of tariffs. And now, while Cetinje grows, while parliamentary institutions threaten to breed a class of professional politicians, the peasantry are increasingly tempted to emigrate. It is true that they do not remain away long. No sooner have they succeeded in collecting the few pounds with which they can command something like affluence at home than they yield to their chronic home-sickness and hurry back to their beloved hills. Meanwhile the country is beginning to realise that a serious attempt at development must be made. There is a terrible scarcity of water; a scarcity of soil clamours for better machinery, better means of cultivation and improved communications. Who knows whether rich mines may not be awaiting development in the interior? At any rate rich forests only await the new railway to be turned into gold at the coast.

And, with all their offensive attributes, tourists are also a source of riches. Heaven forbid that the Grey Mountain should ever sink to the low level of Switzerland, a mere convenience for man and, more often, beast. But there are attractions galore. The scenery of Lake Skodra with its fairy outlines and infinitely dainty colours must delight every artistic soul—a triumphant contrast after the crude garish lithography of a German river or an Italian lake. A drive among willows and fireflies to Podgorica is an introduction, perhaps for the first time, to the truly picturesque, and the student of remote races is there privileged to behold, certainly for the first time, Albanian vivacity purged of Albanian lust for blood. Here, too, is a paradise for anglers, and hard by at Dioclea, the birthplace of Diocletian, the archaeologist may take his fill of Roman remains.

Thence you shall proceed up the rich valley of the Zeta to the foot of the mountain which conceals the marvellous monastery of Ostrog. It consists for the most part of a cavern which has been carved out of an almost inaccessible rock, inaccessible at least in time of war, as Montenegrin history and ballads proudly remind. Passing on through Nikšić, which possesses an excellent inn and other signs of prosperity, you may travel away to all sorts of remote spots which have rarely been explored even by many Montenegrins.

No doubt there are many other countries which offer an abundance of surprising scenery and venerable survivals. But exploration of them is usually by way of perils and discomforts enough to scare the ordinary traveller from the attempt. Montenegro, however, has contrived to assure perfect security while retaining all her ancient characteristics and peculiar charms unimpaired. For that reason she ought to be visited. For many other reasons she deserves to be known, and once known she cannot fail to be loved.

PACHMANN AND PADEREWSKI.

By ARTHUR SYMONS.

PADEREWSKI causes wonder, Pachmann delight.

The one is passionate and human, the other unhuman and abstract. To Paderewski a sound is a living thing, which he can master, giving it his own mood and colouring it as he pleases; Pachmann seeks and attains the soul of the note. One tortures sound, the other is tortured by it. Paderewski has no mercy for the sounds which he masters; Pachmann is humbly

attentive, and waits on every sound. At his best Paderewski puts his own qualities into the music; at his best Pachmann interprets. The one aims at display, the other at fidelity. Pachmann is the more sincere artist.

Music is beginning to pass out of the hands of those who once revered it, playing it for its own sake, into the hands of the great executant who uses music as the medium for his expression of himself. Paderewski and Pachmann both played Schubert; but Paderewski played Schubert as Liszt had malformed him, while Pachmann, playing a tiny "Moment Musical" exactly as it was written, gave us Schubert and Schubert only. The modernisings of Liszt, the Judas of music, who betrayed many masters, are done on exactly the same principle as that employed by modern scholars, the Skeats who have betrayed Chatterton. There is nothing to be said for the one or the other; each is a form of unfaithfulness.

Paderewski and Pachmann both played Beethoven; one the sonata in E flat major, Op. 27, the other the "Waldstein". Both played Beethoven without display, with an equal sympathy, and gave one almost the same pleasure. Pachmann was undoubtedly nearer, in his treatment of the pianoforte, to what must have been the actual sounds to which Beethoven listened. He scarcely ever used the pedal, whereas Paderewski plays almost as much with his feet as with his hands. They rise and fall on the pedals in rhythm with the music, and, with amazing delicacy, accentuate or soothe it in turn. The instrument immediately becomes modern.

Paderewski and Pachmann both played Chopin, one the Scherzo in B flat minor, the other the Scherzo in D minor. Each was at his best. Paderewski was all fire and passion, and he gave the music all its breadth and all its daintiness. The execution was tremendous, exhilarating. Pachmann was tenderer to the beauty, a closer interpreter, and, in his own way, with as perfect a mastery. Of the other Chopin pieces Paderewski played the Etudes magnificently, Pachmann miraculously. But the Mazurka, as Paderewski played it, delicately, with a sympathetic sense of its sound, had none of the madness which Pachmann caught from the depths of it. In his playing you realised the nervous heart-beats, their passionate irregularity, their feverish violence, which Chopin had concealed in the music, a kind of wild, fantastic anguish, dancing under a mask, to escape sorrow.

I do not think Pachmann has ever played with such calm certainty of himself, with such complete mastery, so divinely, in short, as at this farewell concert. His nerves for once were quiet, and his playing from beginning to end was reverent, immaculate. Mendelssohn became beautiful under his touch and Weber returned with his bird-like cadences. It is that touch which gives Pachmann his rarest enchantment, his absolute triumph. No fingers were ever so intoxicated with sound, or so faithful to its messages. He trusts his keyboard, never hurrying it beyond its capacities. So Chopin might have played, for we can imagine Chopin, who wrote the only music which can be absolutely expressed on the pianoforte, to have written nothing that he could not execute with his delicate fingers.

The art of the pianoforte, until Liszt transformed it into a new, wonderful, unnatural thing, had been quiet and personal. Its limitations were acknowledged, and it existed, perfect within those limits. Liszt was too clever, too ambitious, to accept an art which fettered him. He astounded the world, as Paganini had done, by an extravagant genius. The orchestra began to come into the wires, and the makers began to strengthen them for players who were now attacking them with violence. The pianoforte was once a ship with sails, beautiful in the wind; it is now a steamer, with loud propellers and blinding smoke. And it is not only the Busonis and the Mark Hambourgs who sacrifice beauty to noise, but every great executant, with the single exception of Pachmann, is more or less a follower of the school of Liszt. Even Paderewski hears the pianoforte as an orchestra; he multiplies sound, hurls his thunder in the air. And in his playing there is no insincerity, no display done for the public's pleasure; he plays to please himself, and the big sounds evidently

enchant him. His Sonata in E flat, which he played with immense, shattering skill, was written for the fingers which were to interpret it. The music was wild, romantic, sometimes dreamy, but it ended with storms and stresses in which the inner beauty was almost battered out of it.

Shall we ever go back, in this matter as in most other matters of art, commerce, and "progress", to that sense of measure, that *wolltemperierte Klavier*, with which Bach and Beethoven were content? Germany is leading the way, in music, in painting, in sculpture, in literature—all emphasis, gloom, display. And even here, in England, there must be some sensational quality in all art if it is to succeed with the public. It is difficult not to allude to a recent event, which has shown, once more, the incapacity of the public to understand good art on the rare occasions when it is offered to them. The statues in the Strand, Mr. Epstein's admirable, severe, refined, and truly decorative work, have been made the subject of gross and ribald talk; and the first attempt to supply the streets of London with adequate monumental sculpture has raised a futile but perilous opposition. Here is sculpture which has been designed for the decoration of the flat surface of a tall building, and it is carefully subordinated to the general effect of the structure. Prying eyes strain themselves to detect at a great height certain details which can give no offence to innocent eyes. Here, then, is one of the signs of our civilisation, which is seen reflecting, at this time of day, the destructive scruples of the monks and puritans to whom we owe the destruction or mutilation of much of the world's beauty.

THE BEANFIELD.

Quid fæbe flore iucundius?—SAINT AMBROSE.

MY leaf's as plain and sad as the oyster-shell
That guards the pearl, or grey seas, or grey
mist

That foils the moon from searching as she list
The meadowland of which the peewits tell.

The secrets of my life go forth in smell:

Yet black, as black as e'er a graver burrd,
And grapeskin veins that lace a web of curd—
Can they not please a quiet eye as well?

To make the habit of my sisterhood,

I only ask the uncomplicated ray
Which, blazing large on wall and broad-
flagged way,
Is night at noon in the Umbrian cypress wood.

And, lest you think my life's all working days
Spent to make plump and marrowy in the pod
Victual for man and horse, likewise to God
I consecrate my honeyweek of praise:

—When bees from half the parish, bee on bee,
Powdered and velvet-hipped and mailed and
furred,
Black, ginger-brown and golden, pass the word
To muster bugle and drum and feast on me.

Whitmonday, as he wheeled, the prentice-boy
Who had no sooner topped the turnpike
summit,
Than, clean as hawk or trout, an arrowy
plummet,

He dived through pure June, pampered up with joy

Of twenty miles an hour—no ears to listen,
Nor wits to think,—yet felt such sweetness
coax
His lordly sense, that, poised on flashing
spokes,

He turned his head and saw a Beanfield glisten.

J. S. PHILLIMORE.

THE UNIVERSITY MATCH.

FOR the first time since 1903 Oxford beat Cambridge on Wednesday, and by play which savoured somewhat of the slow and laborious recovery of a lost art.

The match was chiefly remarkable in that, although the wicket, with the exception of the period before luncheon on the first day when Cambridge batted, was always easy, yet at no period of the game was the bowling thoroughly mastered. Runs were always hard to get and for the agonised spectator every batsman's life seemed constantly on the thread. The scoring was therefore low. Cambridge made 188 and 201, Oxford 207 and 183 for eight wickets. With such insignificant totals it was a serious thing for Cambridge to give away 21 runs in wides and no-balls, to say nothing of the byes and leg-byes which amounted to 27 more.

When you get low scoring on a good wicket, the cause is generally supposed to be bad batting or good bowling or both. It would be probably true to say that this year the Oxford bowling and some of the Cambridge bowling was above the average, and that most of the batting on either side was somewhat below. It was generally not the good ball but the bad stroke which led to overthrow, and this especially with Oxford; for instance, Mr. Bruce and Mr. Foster in the second innings, Mr. Wright and Mr. Bowring in the first. Even Mr. Young, who was playing in his last University match, played far from his best; his game seemed crippled by his profound mistrust of the capacity of his fellow-batsmen, and his fellow-batsmen, with the exception of Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Falcon, and possibly Mr. Ireland, certainly justified his distrust. There was further wastage of run-getting power on both sides when Mr. Foster and Mr. Buchanan were run out in the first innings. The most attractive batting of the match was probably that of Mr. Bruce and Mr. Buchanan in the first innings. Mr. Bruce alone seemed able to reach across and hit Mr. Olivier to the off boundary, and there is always a fine mastery in the batting of Mr. Buchanan. Of a different type was the batting of Mr. Wright and Mr. Hurst, the two batsmen who really turned the match for Oxford in the second innings. Mr. Wright, after failing in the first innings and in spite of being a close eye-witness of the suicidal folly of Mr. Foster, played a characteristic innings of 37, and Mr. Hurst after a fine innings of 61 in the first innings hit well for 48 in the second. Each batsman got out by trying to force the ball on the off-side. Mr. Hurst has not been very successful this year, but in this match he twice did the right things at the right moment. Yet but for Mr. Hatfield to follow Oxford would even so have lost the match. At the end of the second day there were still fifty-seven runs wanted to win with four wickets to fall, and one of these wickets was that of Mr. Teesdale, who had crushed two joints in the right thumb in his first innings. Mr. Hatfield is immune from the ordinary emotions, and helped by some luck and by the rain which postponed play from 11.15 till 4.45, he and Mr. Teesdale won the match for Oxford in the presence of 400 souls. The wicket was probably unfit for play and it was hard on Cambridge to have to bowl and field on such a mess. Mr. Teesdale's judgment was admirable. For bowling Cambridge elected to rely almost entirely on Mr. Olivier and Mr. Lyttelton. Mr. Goodwin is useful, but leg-break bowling is a dangerous instrument with which to play in a match where every run is of supreme value. Mr. Lyttelton never bowled well until the last few overs on the second day and on the third day until rain fell. Then he came quickly from the pitch and seemed difficult. Mr. Olivier did the bulk of the work. He took ten of the seventeen wickets which fell to the ball, and, as he is a freshman, Oxford will suffer from him in the future. He continually swings from the leg both in the air and from the pitch, and makes the batsman play at him. In bowling Oxford was certainly richer. Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Lowe and Mr. Bowring all bowled well, and for a certain period Mr. Robinson also. The Cambridge changes never seemed likely to get a wicket, the Oxford changes generally got one. Mr. Gilbert has certainly bowled better, but Mr. Lowe was up to his true form and Mr.

Bowling above it. In fact he seemed for certain overs to be the most difficult bowler on the side. Mr. Hatfield, as is the way with left-handers in the University match at Lords, did little. He was reserved for other things. It was undoubtedly this variety of good bowling on the Oxford side which turned the scale against Cambridge.

A word should be said of the fielding. In this respect Cambridge was immeasurably superior. Mr. Wright was splendid, and whenever Mr. McLeod had anything to do, he did it well. Oxford fielded with credit, but without distinction. Of the wicket-keepers Mr. Pawson was the better, though Mr. Bailey was very good on the leg-side. One of Mr. Pawson's catches was quite brilliant. As he is a Freshman he should have a great career in University cricket before him, a remark which also applies to Mr. Falcon. Mr. Falcon is sure to be a fine player, and, more important still, he undoubtedly possesses the right nerve for University cricket. Apart from the merits and demerits of individual cricketers, the match of 1908 was exciting and keenly played. The excitement seemed to begin with the beginning of play, and did not, as sometimes happens, supervene on the consciousness of spectators and players after lunch on the second day. The tension had its effect on the players, and probably conduced somewhat to the low scoring. It was a good game to watch. The luck, with the exception of a bad decision in favour of Mr. Buchanan, was in favour of Oxford, but it was Oxford's turn. Next year Cambridge should be a stronger eleven, and to beat Cambridge in 1909 Oxford will have to play a surer and better balanced game.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CETINJE TRIAL FOR HIGH TREASON.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

4 July, 1908.

SIR,—I venture to express my regret that a champion of Serbian regicides should have found hospitality in a Review not usually associated with condonation of crime. Obeying an inspiration from the regicide press-bureau at Belgrade, he seeks to shake the evidence given before the High Court at Cetinje by bringing a number of wild and unsupported charges against a witness named Nastić. No doubt Mr. Nastić will be well able to take care of himself, but I may mention that he recently published an "open letter" to Pašić, then Prime Minister of Serbia, challenging the Serbian Government to appoint a mixed commission, which should consist of Serbian and Montenegrin representatives, and offering to submit himself to the severest punishment if he failed to prove (1) that a conspiracy against the Montenegrin dynasty was organised at Belgrade, and (2) that bombs were manufactured in the Serbian arsenal with the consent of the Serbian Court.

Moreover, the evidence of Mr. Nastić was corroborated by documents. He received a letter from George, son and heir of Peter Karageorgević, introducing him to the Commander of the Serbian Arsenal at Kragujevac. This letter was given him by Nenadović, a cousin of Peter Karageorgević. Mr. Nastić spent ten days at the arsenal, and saw the bombs prepared. In corroboration of this he produced bombs which he had seen made and, on examination, they proved to be the exact counterpart of those found on the prisoners. It is not suggested that Mr. Nastić was a bona fide conspirator, but there is a great difference between acting as an agent provocateur towards such people as Peter Karageorgević, George Karageorgević, Pašić, Nenadović, &c., and luring on misguided students to their doom.

Even if it were true that Mr. Nastić was a thief and a spy, as your anonymous correspondent wildly asserts, we are still to remember that his was not the only evidence which implicated the Serbian Crown and Government in the plot to assassinate the Prince of Montenegro and his family. A letter was read from Captain Nicholas Vukotić to his brother promising him

moral and material support from Serbia and enclosing 1,000 fr. received from Peter Karageorgević to further the plot. The ex-Deputy Čulafić, who has just been condemned to death, stated in his evidence that he was received by Pašić, who promised him his help in transporting the bombs. Letters written by Todor Bozović and Milos Tomić showed that a proclamation calling upon Montenegrins to revolt was published in Belgrade with the knowledge of the Serbian police.

Your correspondent says that "it is curious to note how the English press, usually the first to give fair play, has published with relish every report attacking Serbia and the Serbian Royal Family". This juxtaposition implies a consensus of opinion between Serbia and the Karageorgević family. This is a cruel libel upon Serbia, the great mass of whose people disapproved of the murder of King Alexander and the glorification of his butchers. It also presupposes an amazing ignorance on the part of your readers. If it is unfair to publish criticisms of the Karageorgević family, it would also be unfair to assert that Peter was privy to the murder of his predecessor; that he is a puppet in the hands of the regicides and has already distributed among them 360,000 fr.; that he rewarded the persons responsible for the murder of my friend Captain Novaković in the Prefecture at Belgrade; and that he has now presided during five years over a reign of terror. These, however, are notorious facts. Is it then *prima facie* improbable that he should have encouraged a plot against his father-in-law when that noble prince stood in the way of his political designs? I was present in court at Cetinje during the State trial, and I can testify to the conspicuous fairness with which the proceedings were conducted. Instead of desiring to prove anything against the occupant of the Serbian throne, the Montenegrin Government would have been only too delighted if he could have been cleared of the charges brought against him. But murder will out.

I am, Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

HERBERT VIVIAN.

[Mr. Vivian will see that if we had not given "hospitality" to the champion of regicide, we should not have had the advantage of publishing Mr. Vivian's reply. We agree with his view of the present Serbian régime; but in our correspondence columns we are willing to give any clever dog rope to hang himself.—Ed. S. R.]

THE FREE CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—The plea that religious instruction should hold no place in State-aided education, but become the sole function of the Sunday School, is one which, though chiefly held by secularists, is now receiving an increased support from Free Church ministers. Such a plea from a Free Church pastor shows the strangest non-acquaintance with the limitations of the Free Church Sunday School. Standing where the Free Church Sunday School does to-day, the mere suggestion of its fitness to fulfil the whole work of religious instruction betrays an indifferentism to actual conditions little creditable to political Nonconformity. In unfortunate contrast with the active interest shown by Anglicans and Roman Catholics, the talent of Nonconformity is seldom seen in its Sunday Schools. Before the Free Church Council ordained Sunday afternoon as the hour of the week for political demonstrations, that time was regarded as the minister's period of rest between morning and evening service. On that plea, save for special occasions, his presence at his Sunday School was not expected. To-day, with all fatigues forgotten, no Sunday afternoon finds him absent from the chair of his P.S.A., leading the handclapping what time local M.P.s orate on such spiritual themes as "Democratic Finance", "Dreadnoughts or Old Age Pensions", "Why I am a Socialist", and later, himself winning applause from his flock by assuring them that "Tariff Reform is not only dead, but damned". Schools attached to such political churches, and their name is legion, reflect pretty fairly the balance between religion and Radicalism

displayed from the pulpit. Weakness of personnel, however, may be taken as common alike to schools of political and religious churches. Their superintendents are either small tradesmen or better-class artisans, and from the ranks of young shop assistants and junior clerks their male teachers are chiefly recruited. Their lady teachers are mostly dressmakers' assistants, milliners, shop hands, or better-class warehouse girls, with a fair sprinkling of domestic servants. Of all it may be said that honour for work so praiseworthy in purpose must be allowed to cloak, but cannot do away with, personal unfitness to instruct. Experience shows that but few can attend except in the afternoon, when the chaos caused by untrained instructors struggling to instruct can be seen at its worst. As the visitor enters, a dull roar seems to prevail over his other impressions of a stuffy, ill-lighted lecture hall. Round the walls and down the centre run the classes, formed by rows of children sitting face to face on backless benches with dangling feet. Midway between sits the teacher, often so placed as to be partly inaudible. A bell rings, and the superintendent strives for silence. Often at this point, after a multitude of disregarded warnings, two or three of the bigger boys are ejected by the united efforts of the secretary and librarian. Then a hymn is sung. At its close, the confusion, partly drowned by the harmonium, and partly damped by expulsions, starts again in crescendo with the superintendent's voice. A teacher's obligato of—"Now just you stop that!" "Brown, let me see you do that again, and out you go!" with an occasional truculent "Yes, it's you I'm talking to!" follows his voice throughout. At last the voice ceases and the children "go into class".

Afternoon school usually lasts one hour and a quarter. Already twenty minutes have gone in opening, and taking severe measures against nine-year-old and ten-year-old desperadoes. Another twenty minutes will be needed at the close for re-forming, announcements, and closing devotional exercise. About thirty-five minutes remain for class instruction. Scarcely one child in ten has a Bible, and as the teacher speaks voices of others to right and left clash with his own. He raises it, and makes the uncomfortable discovery that his example has been followed and that a small shouting-match is in progress. Twenty minutes of semi-disturbed teaching follows, when the librarian usually makes his afternoon's incursion, and five minutes' wrangle rises till each book finds its lawful bailee. The class makes an effort to settle down as he departs, but presently a voice is heard proclaiming: "Teaching will cease in five minutes." A ripple of unrest, like that produced by the word "Feed" in a cavalry stable, follows this announcement, and away go the last vestiges of order. Inadequate arrangements have wasted a still more inadequate period of instruction. Yet, short though the time may be, it is often too long for the ability of the teacher. It is not unusual to notice teachers who have run out of their stock of instruction within the first fifteen minutes. These will be seen to have come provided with story-books, which they read aloud to fill up time. Young men who would formerly have devoted their Sunday afternoons to this service now follow their pastor to the Sunday afternoon political meeting, and among the bigger boys the habit of going to the P.S.A. to enjoy the mental intoxication of a fiery Radical-Socialist harangue on arbitration, or Russian atrocities, or the sins of Mr. Balfour and the House of Lords, starts at about the same age as cigarette-smoking.

In common with other forms of purely religious effort, which since the rise of the Free Church Council are being crowded out by political propaganda, the Sunday School has perhaps been the greatest sufferer, chiefly no doubt from non-adaptability to take a place in the political firing-line. It may therefore be confidently forecast that the cry of "Confine religious teaching to the Sunday School" will be officially adopted by the Council. Complete secularisation has always been the fixed policy of that wing of the Radical-Socialist party whose members monopolise the P.S.A. pulpit, and Free Churchmen may rest assured that whatever else may be jettisoned the party will not be permitted to suffer. During its whole career no man has ever dared to accuse the Free Church Council of putting the interests of faith first and party second. Noncon-

formists must therefore realise that the banishment of religious teaching from the day school will result in a practically complete secularisation of their children. So far from the Free Church Sunday School being competent to undertake higher responsibilities, it is at present worthless for the execution of those duties which it is supposed to perform.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

A NONCONFORMIST.

NORWAY'S ATTITUDE TO SWEDEN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Last Friday an interesting debate took place in the Norwegian Parliament. The origin of this debate was as follows: Long before the dissolution of the union, it was part of certain Norwegian Radicals' policy of distrust and agitation against Sweden to build a series of forts along the Norwegian-Swedish border. On the Swedish side of the border there were no defensive works directed against Norway. Although the building of those forts created deep and durable annoyance to Sweden, the Swedes apparently put up with it for the sake of the union and that Scandinavian unity in foreign policy which the union guaranteed and which was a sufficient reason for its existence. The man who untiringly advocated the building of the forts and who may be said to have created them was a Colonel Stang.

When Norway put herself outside the union, one of the conditions for acquiescence in the separation made by the Swedish Parliament was the demolition of those forts. During the negotiations at Karlstad, which were carried on with the two countries on the brink of war, this point was the most difficult one to settle in the face of a strong hostile agitation against it from Norwegian Radicals. But finally the Norwegian delegates, who were wiser and better able to understand the situation, agreed to the demolition of the forts. Furthermore a neutral zone, within which no military operations or establishments were allowed, was created on both sides of the borderline from the sea up to Elverum, where the mountains rise to natural defensive works. This neutral zone was to be a guarantee of peace between the two kindred countries. At the same time an arbitration agreement was made, by which differences were to be referred to the Hague Tribunal.

Every impartial onlooker believed that these arrangements would satisfactorily shape the official relations between the two so separated countries, especially removing any reason for distrust as to military designs and leave time for the healing of the wounds the separation had opened. So far as regards the greater part of the two peoples, this expectation has been fulfilled. It is true that the integrity treaty which Norway hurried to conclude was considered another step for cutting up Scandinavian unity in foreign policy, directed against Sweden, and for these reasons strongly resented there, and also in Denmark. But still it was a matter which at any rate was intended to make for peace and peaceful enjoyment of the new conditions.

But although thus provided with neutral zone, strongly binding treaties with Sweden and integrity guarantee from the Great Powers, Colonel Stang and his friends were not satisfied. They now originated an agitation for the construction of a series of new forts against Sweden immediately behind the neutral zone. A short time ago Colonel Stang died, but his work is continued and has found a very strong supporter among others in the Minister for War in the present Radical Government, Mr. Lowzow. Lately this gentleman openly advocated the plan, called the fortification of the Glommen line, in the preface to a work by Colonel Stang. This created considerable stir in Norway and also in Sweden, and led to an interpellation in the Norwegian parliament and to the above-mentioned debate there. The Opposition, consisting of the Conservative party and Socialists, attacked the Government for their inconsistency in boasting of being peace pioneers and at the same time favouring warlike preparations which were not only unnecessary but marked an offensive distrust for the neighbour and mitigated

against the good understanding on the peninsula which must be the aim of all far-seeing politicians as well as citizens in general. The Government was accused of "failing to understand the moral development in the world's policy", &c. The result was the adoption of a kind of compromise resolution, evading the real question and simply affirming a determination to continue the work for peace and arbitration, faithful to the treaties, at the same time asserting the duty of upkeeping the country's defences.

But there are strong reasons to believe that the resolution only means a temporary shelving and that the agitation will go on. It is in reality a very important question. At first sight it might seem as if the matter were solely and absolutely of internal Norwegian concern, because those forts on Norwegian soil would not violate any treaty or agreement whatever. The Norwegians have, of course, complete freedom, strictly speaking, to build fortresses wherever they like in their country except within the neutral zone. But there are a great many other factors to be taken into consideration. There are moral factors; there is the paramount consideration of the external position of the peninsula as a whole; there is the factor of political wisdom; there is also the factor that such preparations against the neighbour for which no real reason exists probably would provoke corresponding fortifications on the Swedish side of the neutral zone, and possibly lead further to evil ends, thus drawing the Powers who have signed the integrity treaty into dangerous conflicts. This is why I think it a duty to draw attention to the matter. Those Norwegian Radicals' warlike agitation is of special political interest in these days when the Scandinavian countries by the transposition of the forces of the Great Powers and the tension between their interests are placed in such a delicate position. Every member of one of the Scandinavian nations who, aloof from party strife and petty jealousy, is able to take an impartial view of the situation will be forced to preach another gospel than those who advocate building of forts along the peace zone between Sweden and Norway. Let them instead strengthen the army and navy, and in that way not only better prepare for the defence of the country in all directions, but also for the defence of the peninsula as a whole.

A FRIEND OF SCANDINAVIAN HARMONY.

THE DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

8 June, 1908.

SIR,—The Daylight Saving Bill will be the peace-destroying Bill. Who is to get the servants up in the morning to cook the breakfast required for this early start for the City? I have the greatest difficulty in getting them up as it is. The Bill would entail my lying awake half the night to be sure of calling them in time. As for old servants, "they are not coming down before their usual time". Altering the clocks would not alter their habits. Going to sleep and waking up at stated times is a habit of lifelong standing. In the case of nervous people it would often mean no sleep at all.

And what good is to be gained?—more fog, more cold, more ill-temper. How about the journalists and newspaper editors? They would have to be writing all night. Tennis, games, &c., go on as long as daylight lasts, and young men won't put up, to dress for dinner, till the evening is drawing in. It really means a curtailed night's rest, for the late dinner will not be any earlier than it is whatever new time may be arranged. How about a signalman who oversleeps himself (a most natural thing with shifting time)? Is he to be punished if an appalling accident takes place? And the poor bakers and milkmen. Let those who want to get up early do so, and leave the rest of us in peace with our permanent Greenwich time.

Yours truly,

W.

REVIEWS.

THE PHILOSOPHER-STATESMAN.

"Miscellanies" Fourth Series. By John Morley. London: Macmillan. 1908. 7s. 6d. net.

THREE statesmen of the nineteenth century have also been men of letters, Canning, Disraeli, and John Morley. Lord Rosebery has just missed being either a statesman or a man of letters, probably because of an over-abundance of the *ἐκρὸς ἀγαθῆς*. The literary gifts and training of Canning and Disraeli were turned to satire, and we must taste their genius in the verses of the "Anti-Jacobin", and in the fictitious careers of "Coningsby" and "Lothair". John Morley, like his intellectual ancestor, Edmund Burke, is a serious political reasoner, perhaps the only one of his age; and the great merit of these *Miscellanies*—the fine flower of essay-writing—is that they "set men on thinking" about politics. The volume opens with Machiavelli and Guicciardini on the politics of Italy in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and ends with Lecky and Hobhouse on the politics of England in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Machiavelli agrees with the author of *Ecclesiastes* that there is nothing new under the sun; and that the world neither grows better nor worse, but remains the same. Names change and fashions alter, but the issues are constant. The essays on the two Italian statesmen, who were contemporaries, form a mine of pregnant maxims and shrewd observations on government and worldly success. Epigrammatic brevity is either the condensation of sciolism, or the preserved and portable wisdom of experience. We have not space to quote more than a few of Lord Morley's good sayings, which bear the stamp of a man who has lived familiarly with great minds, and has read all the best things that have been written about the government of mankind. It is curious, by the way, to note that two such different thinkers as Machiavelli and Goethe agree in trusting the people, but for opposite reasons: Machiavelli because the public are usually right about particulars, though they may go wrong about generalities; Goethe because the public is always in a state of delusion about details, though scarcely ever about broad truths. We think that the German philosopher is more in the right than the Italian politician. Goethe's conclusion is often put differently by saying that the people are nearly always right but never for the right reason. In judging of the political philosophy of Machiavelli and Guicciardini it should be remembered that in the sixteenth century in Italy "life was a mortal combat, the house a fortress, the garment a cuirass, hospitality an ambush, the embrace a garotte, the proffered cup poison, the proffered hand a dagger-thrust". The extraordinary thing is that the advice given by these two "practical politicians" of the violent times should be so apt for their descendants, whose keenest rivalry is on the golf-links or at the bridge-table. Guicciardini seems to stimulate the gnomic sense in Lord Morley, and the two seem to be capping one another's aphorisms. "Though men are often spoiled by success in the world, still more are spoiled by failure", says Lord Morley with profound truth, and again: "Various are the attitudes of men towards the outside unseen divinity—Fortune, Chance, Necessity, Force of Circumstance—when it overthrows them. Some defy, some whimper, some fall stunned, some break their hearts once for all, others silently obey the grim ordering of events and with courage gather up the shattered pieces"; and again: "Nobody has so many biting things to say about the selfishness and duplicity of mankind, as one who has made it the whole business of his life to use mankind as the ladder of his own advancement". Here is Guicciardini's variant of Burke's saying that he could not draw an indictment against a people: "Be careful in your conversation never needlessly to say things which, if they were reported, might displease others; because such things, in times and ways you never thought of, often turn up to do you vast mischief. When occasion drives you to say what must be offensive to somebody else, at least be sure that it only offends

the individual. Do not speak ill of his country, or of his family or connexions; it is folly, while you only wish to strike one, to offend many." Then there is the praise of cocksure mediocrity: "Too keen wits mean unhappiness and torment: they only bring on a man perplexity and trouble, from which those with heads of the positive sort are quite free. He who has sound judgment can make far more use of the man with only clever brains, than the clever man can make use of him. The man with the positive head has a better time in the world, lives longer, and in a certain fashion is happier, than the man with high intellect, for a noble intellect carries with it toil and fret." All men of real experience believe in luck. "In human things it is fortune that has the mastery. Every hour we see mighty results due to accidents that nobody could either foresee or divert. Penetration and care may temper the force of things, still you need good fortune. A fool will sometimes come better out than a wise man; for the one will trust much to Reason and little to Fortune; while the other trusts much to Fortune and little to Reason." On the other hand, there have been clever and successful men who declared that they never left anything to chance. Here is a really cynical Guicciardinism: "Always deny what you do not wish to have known, and affirm what you wish to have believed; for though there may be proofs and even certainty the other way, a bold affirmation or denial will perplex the listener." This is the kind of saying which made the reputation of Machiavelli and Guicciardini; which, for instance, excited the enthusiasm of Bonaparte. But we agree with Lord Morley that the Italians were no worse than the majority of "practical politicians" of other countries and of more civilised times.

The study of John Stuart Mill, "the saint of rationalism", as Gladstone called him, is naturally sympathetic, for Lord Morley began life, at all events, in his school; but it is also searching, though concise. What the French call "justesse", or balance of mind, or better still, a combination of justness in drawing conclusions with accuracy in perceiving causes, is rightly singled out by Lord Morley as Mill's greatest quality. He admits that Mill's bolt is shot. "It is true, Mill's fame and influence are no longer what they were. How should they be? As if perpetuity of direct power or of personal renown could fall to any philosopher's lot, outside the little group consecrated by tradition. Books outside of the enchanted realm of art and imagination become spent forces; men who were the driving agents of their day sink into literary names, and take a faded place in the catalogue of exhausted influences." Stuart Mill sat for Westminster for three years, from 1865 to 1868, and was of course a failure in the House of Commons, where Disraeli sneered at him as "a finishing governess", and Bright, still more unkindly, said that "the worst of great thinkers is that they generally think wrong". Almost immediately after Mill's death a reaction set in against his individualism, and the picturesque collectivism of Carlyle became the fashion. Now Carlyle is put on the shelf, and the statistician is lord of the ascendant.

To political practitioners the two most interesting essays will be those on "Lecky on Democracy" and "Democracy and Reaction", a commentary on Mr. L. T. Hobhouse's book. Here we have Lord Morley on the politics of the present day, and we strongly commend these "fugitive pieces, yet perhaps not altogether without a clue", to the attentive reading of all who follow the development of party government. It is worth while trying to understand the views of Lord Morley, for he exercises a greater influence over the opinion of men outside Parliament than any other statesman. What is democracy? he asks, and stays to hear his own answer. Sometimes it is the name for the form of government which is controlled by the numerical majority: sometimes it is used to denote the numerical majority itself; sometimes it is the name for a policy directed exclusively or mainly to the advantage of the labouring class; and sometimes it is the name for "a certain general condition of society", or its spirit, or tone. Much invective and alarm have been uselessly excited by this confusion of ideas. We have always thought that Lecky was overrated

as historian and moralist, his "Map of Life", for instance, being a bundle of pretentious platitudes. His book on Democracy was both platitudinous and inaccurate, as Lord Morley has little difficulty in showing: but perhaps it hardly deserves all the severe things which Lord Morley says about it. The truth is that Lord Morley is in a rage, and scolds and slaps Mr. Lecky for his Toryism with quite unphilosophic violence. His best criticism of a bulky failure is his French quotation, "c'est très bien, mais il y a des longueurs". The two good modern attacks on Democracy are Maine's four essays on "Popular Government", which are as much too short as Lecky's book is too long, and Mr. Lilley's "First Principles of Politics". Lord Morley's denial of Mr. Lecky's assertion that the tone of the House of Commons has changed (for the worse) is not the least interesting passage. "Tone is a subtle thing. . . . For my own part, after five-and-twenty years of experience, my strong impression is that in all the elements that go to compose what we may take Mr. Lecky to mean by tone—respect for sincerity, free tolerance of unpopular opinion, manly considerateness, quick and sure response to high appeal in public duty and moral feeling, a strong spirit of fair play (now at last extended *bon gré mal gré* even to members from Ireland), that in these and the like things, the House of Commons has not deteriorated, but improved." And then he adds in a footnote to page 194, "The House of Commons chosen in 1906 contains a good many exponents of ideas that I do not happen to share, but in manners, and in the virtues above enumerated, it is the best of the seven Parliaments in which I have sat". Surely this is an exaggeration, made in the slapping mood!

The final essay on "Democracy and Reaction" is the most elaborate, and evidently thought out the hardest. It would be impossible, at the close of a review such as this, to give even an idea of its suggestions, for conclusions are avoided. From it we gather that Lord Morley and Mr. Hobhouse are disappointed in democracy because of its Imperialism and its sensuality, using the word not in its gross sense. Lord Morley and Mr. Hobhouse have found out that Democracy and Liberalism are not the same thing, and the discovery pains them. Disraeli, Cavour, and Bismarck found it out too, and exulted over the strong Conservative elements in democracy. Lord Morley is obliged to admit that the seer Disraeli did not read the heavens amiss. This reaction of Democracy against Liberalism is ascribed to four causes, the decay of religious belief, "a stream of German idealism" (we do not pretend to understand what this means), the success of Bismarck's blood and iron policy, and "the belief that physical science had given its verdict in favour—for it came to this—of violence and against social justice", in other words, Darwinism. It is important to remember that this essay was written after 1906. This is the courtly manner in which Democracy is bowed out: "Democracy has long passed out beyond mere praise and blame. Dialogues and disputations on its success or failure are now an idle quarrel. Democracy is what it is. Its own perils encompass it. They are many, they are grave. Spiritual power in the old sense there is none; the material power of wealth is formidable. Like kings and nobles in old time, so in our time, the man in the street will have his sycophants and parasites." That he has not been one of these is amongst Lord Morley's many claims to the respect and gratitude of his countrymen.

FROM THE DICKENS DUST-HEAP.

"Miscellaneous Papers and Plays and Poems." By Charles Dickens. 2 vols. London: Chapman and Hall. 1908. 12s.

WE suppose it would be the expected and correct thing to say that Mr. Matz the editor, or rather collector, of the papers in these two large volumes, has put all Dickens lovers under a deep obligation. It would not be exactly true however, unless we confine the meaning of Dickens lovers to the circle of enthusiasts for whom the humour that Dickens lavished

on the Pickwick Club seems to have been written in vain. Collecting things that have little intrinsic value, and with much self-importance making a great fuss and being very solemn about it, appealed to Dickens' sense of the ludicrous. It is very amusing that the good people who give themselves the name of "Dickensians" and form clubs and found magazines for the accumulation and study of every kind of Dickens trifle should be so unconscious how closely their proceedings resemble those of the Pickwick Club. They take the sort of questions put by Calverley in a burlesque examination paper, as indicating a line of serious enquiries; and what is really a waste of time they imagine to be investigation of literary problems and an uncommon love of literature. There has been a controversy lately we understand whether when Mr. Pickwick retired after his adventures to some village, whose name we forget, he ever sat under a certain tree which has been cut down or has disappeared somehow. The persons to whom this sort of pastime is attractive argue the question as gravely as if a fictitious person could sit under a tree. Why not quarrel about whether he ever took any of it home for firewood?

Mr. Matz is the high priest of this cult, and we believe his case shows that it is possible to obtain a European reputation by being the great authority on such matters as the Bath Crescent or Circus, Mr. Pickwick's lodgings in the City Road, or into which of the horse-troughs in Dorking Mr. Stiggins was reputed to be thrown by Mr. Weller. As editor of the "Dickensian" it is his duty and we do not doubt his pleasure to pick up every derelict trifle about Dickens or his writings of which with the collector's instinct he can get on the track. The collector, however, generally has a sense of relative values, and he is generally in search of the best. Were he a collector of postage stamps, he would select and discriminate and reject. The ordinary editor who edits the papers of a deceased author will do the same kind of selecting and rejecting, and will keep back what is not representative of his author at his best. But Mr. Matz has edited these Miscellaneous Papers quite differently. His aim is to discover and print whatever Dickens wrote anonymously as a journalist; and whenever he beats other collectors at the same game he has attained his ideal and gained his highest satisfaction. When this is done and the files of the newspapers and magazines to which Dickens contributed articles on topics that were popular fifty years ago have been ransacked, every scrap is published and it is proudly announced that the "Gadshill Edition" is complete.

Except to the Pickwicks of the Dickensian fellowship we do not see why this should be any gratification. Mr. Matz seems to be conscious of this too, for he makes a kind of apology by saying that the pieces are not immature but written by Dickens in the maturity of his powers. This is true, and it is apparent that Dickens was a very able journalist. But if Mr. Matz had discovered an unpublished novel by Dickens, even an immature one, the Gadshill Edition would have a great deal more to boast of. Dickens himself made a collection of his miscellaneous writings, and Mr. Matz, rather uneasy that this suggests judgment as to the literary value of the remainder, says: "It cannot reasonably be supposed, however, that he considered those he selected as alone worthy of preservation, or of his genius." To us the presumption seems the other way, and the contents of these two volumes prove it. They have a biographical interest it is true; but we knew already that Dickens was a social and legal reformer who wrote articles denouncing the abuses of his day. They are now antiquated, as the old forms of these abuses have passed away, but they remain enshrined in the novels, and it is only in their imaginative setting that Dickens has given them more than an ephemeral life. We may, if we have the antiquarian passion about Dickens, be greatly interested in these articles as supplying much of the raw material of the novels, but beyond this, except for a "complete edition", the dust of "Household Words" and "All the Year Round" has been disturbed unnecessarily. And after all completeness has not been attained. Mr. Matz has applied the literary test in some instances, and has, no doubt regretfully, omitted. Heaven forbid that we

should be experts in Dickensian lore, yet we notice one sketch is not in the collection: "The Double-bedded Room", or something of that kind. We by no means regret its absence, and perhaps Mr. Matz may be able to prove by referring to some contributors book or other that in fact it was not by Dickens. In either case we are quite indifferent about it.

Besides the prose articles Dickens' farces or comedies are reprinted in these volumes; and there are some "poems". We do not suppose that anyone would maintain that these have any but the most commonplace literary merit. The verses that appear in the "Pickwick Papers" are the best of Dickens' droppings into poetry; and "The Ivy Green" is the best of these. As they are in the "Pickwick Papers" it seems supererogatory to repeat them in a separate volume. In bulk these two volumes make a handsome addition to the Gadshill Edition. In quality there is hardly anything which is really worthy of preservation. Dickens as an essayist had neither thought nor style which gives his work of this kind any permanent value. He wrote good, vigorous, straightforward prose on the topics of the day; and this is the best that can be said of these Miscellaneous Papers.

PLANTAGENET IRELAND.

"The Making of Ireland and its Undoing, 1200-1600."

By Alice Stopford Green. London: Macmillan and Co. 1908. 10s. net.

THE main theses of Mrs. Green's vigorous and freshly written work are two. The first is that in the course of the three centuries which, roughly speaking, separate the nominal conquest of Ireland by Henry II. from that more effective subjugation which may be said to have commenced with Henry VIII.'s assumption of the title of King of Ireland, the Norman and the Gaelic elements in the population had coalesced so as to produce a race practically homogeneous and a civilisation distinctly national. The second is that the independent national life thus evolved was wantonly arrested from unworthy motives of mercantile jealousy by the policy of the Tudors, and trampled under foot by the violence of their agents in the Irish wars of the sixteenth century. These are the propositions which underlie the whole argument of the book; and they are supported by a perfect wilderness of single instances, which its author, with remarkable industry and an admirably picturesque eye, has extracted from the annals and the State Papers relating to the period. The argument is one which, in the sense in which Mrs. Green uses it and the extent to which she pushes it, has all the charm of novelty; but, in spite of the persuasive dexterity with which the facts are marshalled in a volume interesting in every page, it cannot be held established. That there was in Ireland in early times a Gaelic civilisation different in kind from the civilisation imported by the Anglo-Norman invaders is beyond question, and that the former was quite equal to the latter in its evolutionary possibilities need not at present be disputed. Unquestionably through a great part of Ireland, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the non-Gaelic element in the population gradually disappeared as a distinct entity, and became merged to a great degree in the Gaelic stock. This amalgamation resulted partly from the Anglo-Norman element being insufficiently recruited by fresh immigration, partly from that opposition between the interest of the Crown and that of the great feudatory barons which was just as marked a feature of Anglo-Irish as of English mediæval history. For the effective administration of Ireland as a Plantagenet colony lasted for less than a hundred and fifty years, and ended with the invasion of Edward Bruce; an episode of the profoundest consequence in Irish history, but one which Mrs. Green, oddly enough, hardly mentions. Bannockburn was scarcely more fatal to the ambitions of the Plantagenet kings in Scotland than it was to the reality of their authority in Ireland. Edward III., indeed, sought to repair the results of a catastrophe which, in the full tide of his prosperity, and at a moment when he seemed destined to sway without dispute the splendid possessions of

Henry II., rendered the latest of his ancestor's acquisitions a barely nominal heritage. But the Statute of Kilkenny was no more than a passing assertion, in a moment of revived strength, of authority virtually surrendered and forgotten through a long period of weakness. The process by which the English Pale diminished until its borders scarcely exceeded the limits of the territories within a short day's ride of Dublin continued practically without interruption until Tudor times. That British rule was scouted and flouted as well by the descendants of the Anglo-Norman colonists as by the Irish sept is a familiar commonplace of Irish history. But that the unanimity with which the authority of the sovereign was repudiated by the Englishry and contemned by the Irishry meant any real unity between the two races, still less an identity of civilisation, is a very different proposition, and one which this book altogether fails to establish. The origin of Mrs. Green's error lies in her attribution to the mediæval period of conditions which undoubtedly showed themselves in the sixteenth century, but which arose out of the unhappy circumstances of that deplorably embittered age, and have no application to the earlier period.

The Norman conquest of Ireland, nominal, partial and ineffective though it was in many respects, had in it two elements of power and of permanence which never quite lost their influence and which to the end prevented any real amalgamation. The towns were from the first, and to the close of the Plantagenet era continuously remained, English in their instincts and in their administration; and the clergy were predominantly anti-Irish. Mrs. Green's chapters on the life of the towns—she has none upon the clergy—though in some respects the most interesting, are, from the point of view of her theory, the weakest in her book. English authority in the island was undoubtedly "inaugurated by the planting or occupying of towns", which were, as Mrs. Green puts it, "planted out, like the English monasteries, as colonies and fortresses of the stranger". And such, in their essence, they undoubtedly remained throughout the period, only assuming an attitude of opposition to the English interest when the attempt to enforce Reformation principles had produced a religious line of demarcation in a population which had retained down to Elizabethan times its original character. By the close of the sixteenth century identity of religious beliefs, above all a common share in the horrors of religious oppression, had unquestionably produced a complete revolution in the political sympathies of the urban population. But it is profoundly unhistorical to deduce from this change of religious feeling the existence at an earlier period of an anti-English sentiment in the towns. That the commercial interests of the English-bred burghers induced them, notwithstanding legislation to the contrary, to traffic with the adjacent Irish is certainly no proof of a community of political interest.

Still, there was so much room for a book on mediæval Ireland that it is impossible not to be grateful to Mrs. Green for her work. Very few persons have essayed, and no writer of eminence has hitherto undertaken, the necessary task of analysing the results of those important contributions to our knowledge of Ireland under the Plantagenets which archaeological research, linguistic study, and the publication of State and municipal archives have placed within reach of students of the last generation. To have had these materials explored by a writer of Mrs. Green's gifts of picturesque selection and attractive presentation is a boon for which the general reader has every reason to feel grateful; while students of a period which is at least as interesting as it is still obscure must be gratified to find their somewhat forbidding and hitherto unpopular studies so effectively popularised. But if it is impossible not to feel gratitude to Mrs. Green for a book which, whatever else is to be said of it, is undeniably stimulating and informing, it is equally impossible not to regret the spirit of acute partisanship in which it has been written. It may indeed be readily admitted that dry-light history is not always the most illuminating; and that every historian is entitled not only to have an opinion but to express it. But the historian must not attempt to strain facts to support a preconceived conclusion, and to lay

stress only on those portions of the evidence which match with an assumed theory. No doubt it is extremely difficult to divorce history from politics, and in the case of Irish history the task may sometimes be found an almost impossible one. But if it be true that in no other field is it more difficult to avoid handling vexed questions, it is on that account all the more necessary to avoid dealing with them vexatiously. It is impossible to exempt this book from the censure which its author deprecates by anticipation; certainly "it may be thought unnecessary to revive the tale of slanders hoary with the age of centuries". Even if we grant that it is necessary "to correct a whole series of misconceptions which have been for generations instilled into the minds of English and Irish alike"; that mere faction is too often given as the sufficient cause of Irish disorder; that the common explanation of the wreck of Irish society as the downfall of a people without a national sense, and incapable of union, requires some correction; it is still difficult to believe that "the esteem and consideration that must form the only honourable relation between two neighbouring peoples" can be strengthened by a series of exacerbating extracts, which, though most unlikely to dispose the offender to substitute consideration for contempt, are extremely likely to excite anger rather than esteem in the injured. Irish history has in every age been vitiated by this unfortunate spirit of recrimination. Anti-Irish historians from Giraldus Cambrensis to Froude, anti-English historians from Cambrensis Eversus to Mrs. Green, have unhappily combined to confound history with polemics. It is no doubt difficult to treat of the subject without trenching in some degree on topics that are even now contentious; but it ought surely to be within the competence of a skilled historian to touch on controversial subjects without being controversial.

THE VINDICATION OF WELLINGTON.

"The Campaign of 1815, chiefly in Flanders." By Lieut.-Colonel W. H. James. Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1908. 16s.

"TAKING into consideration the series of amazing blunders, both tactical and strategical, committed by Napoleon between 15 June 1815 and the evening of the battle of Waterloo, it is almost inconceivable to imagine what can have induced him to adopt the profession of arms." So wrote many years ago a Staff College student imbued with more humour than his preceptors, who, after inflicting upon him and his brother-sufferers a severe dose of Waterloo lectures, had required of him an essay on the campaign. The story of the Waterloo campaign has been written so often, and the principal actors in it have been subjected to such continuous criticism, that it might seem there was no place for this book of Lieut.-Colonel James, better known to the world as Captain Walter James, the famous army coach. However he has not only produced an excellent and clear narrative, but by his diligent researches he has thrown fresh light upon several important points which writers, British, German, and Belgian alike, during the last thirty years have done their best to confuse and obscure.

Waterloo has ever been a source of contention. Hardly had the smoke drifted from the battlefield when two schools arose—one the bulldog-British, typified by the gallant Kincaid, of the 95th Rifles, who swore that "Blücher's promised aid did not come in time to take any share whatever in the battle", and that "long before his arrival the French had been beaten into a mass of ruin, in condition for nothing but running"; the other, the coldly critical German, who sought to cover the reverse at Ligny by loudly asserting that his countrymen had saved the British from defeat at Waterloo, and that the whole credit of the victory was theirs. But for many years the majority of English and of German writers gave very fair accounts of the campaign. Then in an unlucky moment the gifted Chesney wrote his famous Waterloo Lectures. Anxious to do full justice to our allies, he unintentionally did a grave injustice to his own countrymen. Some years passed, however, before the mischief bore fruit, but by degrees the hostile

German school, disciples of the typically suspicious Gneisenau, who disliked and distrusted Wellington, as not of his peculiar cult, broke out into most vindictive attacks both on Wellington and on the British Army. Full use was made of Chesney's writings as well as of other Englishmen's of lesser note who had followed his lead and striven to give all possible credit to the Germans. Not content with arrogating to the Prussians the entire credit of the campaign, some of them explicitly charged Wellington with wilfully sending a lying statement of the disposition of his forces on the morning of the 16th in order to induce Blücher to fight at Ligny, and thus leave Wellington time to concentrate his ill-disposed and scattered troops. In addition, they accused him of definitely promising to support Blücher at Ligny and failing to do so. Among the worst of these writers was an egregious Professor Delbrück and one Lettow-Vorbeck.

As to the "definite promise" to support Blücher at Ligny; when Wellington rode over to Bussy at mid-day he took with him Müffling, Dörnberg (who was a good linguist and talked German, French, and English well), and Sir Alexander Gordon. Both Dörnberg and Müffling's evidence is clear and decisive as to Wellington's qualified assurance of support. For his words were, "Well, I'll come provided I am not attacked myself". Gneisenau, who was present, reckoned that there were only 10,000 French troops moving on Quatre Bras. As a matter of fact, Ney was at that moment about to attack with 18,000 men and 38 guns, and D'Erlon with over 20,000 men and 46 guns was moving to his support. The severity of the fighting at Quatre Bras is sufficient proof that Wellington's proviso was well founded, and that he was in no condition to make an unconditional promise of support.

Colonel James, after citing all the authorities, finally quotes Pflugk-Hartung and ends: "After a very careful analysis given by this author of the various statements on this head made by every Prussian from Gneisenau to Lettow-Vorbeck it is impossible for anyone to maintain the idea that Wellington promised unconditionally to come to Blücher's aid." Besides, that "Blücher firmly intended to fight under any circumstances is confirmed by the fact that his arrangements were all made and his troops drawn up before Wellington arrived on the battlefield of Ligny".

The discussion which has been raised in Germany over the alleged false statements of the Duke is a more complex matter, since it is undeniable that the information he received and sent to Blücher as to the position of some of his troops on the morning of Ligny was not accurate. But there is a vast difference between a General incorrectly summarising points held by his troops in the genuine belief that the reports he had received were correct, and making one with malice prepense, wilfully giving false information. All dispositions are necessarily very complex matters, and, owing to the inevitable delays in obtaining and forwarding information and in issuing orders thereon to the troops at the front, the possibilities of complications and mistakes are innumerable. Colonel James shows how it happened again and again that there were unconscionable delays on the part of some of the subordinates in reporting the news they had obtained of the enemy, and how, when at last this was done and the Duke had issued his orders to the troops concerned, such orders were not always sent out without delay and even when received were not always promptly obeyed.

To clear up the complex situation which has given rise to these calumnious attacks on the Duke, Colonel James has prepared in tabular form an admirably clear statement giving the names of the thirteen principal units concerned, with the first orders sent them early on 15 June to march or assemble at certain points, the precise station they occupied when these orders were issued, followed by the "after orders" sent out at 10 P.M. of that day in which their various movements from these points to others were carefully laid down. Later on further orders were issued to continue the prescribed movements. Then the actual position of all these troops on the forenoon of 16 June is given, followed by the positions assigned to them in the Duke's letter to Blücher which has been so violently attacked.

Colonel James does not hesitate to say that some of the reports furnished to Wellington by his staff were grossly inaccurate. Wellington was not only misled by these reports but, in addition, based his letter on certain after orders which he had given, and which he had every right to assume had been sent out, for the continuation of the march towards Quatre Bras. All who read this excellent account will realise how genuine Wellington was in his report to Blücher and how, a few hours later, he demonstrated his own belief in what he had written by holding on as he did to Quatre Bras, when it would have been obviously preferable, under the conditions actually existing, for him to fall back on Nivelles, by which means his concentration would have been far more quickly effected and he would have been equally well placed for his retirement on Waterloo.

The author deals with another myth, likewise of modern growth, as to the fighting capacity of our Dutch-Belgian allies. Everyone knows how the Netherlands for years previous to Waterloo had been incorporated in the French Empire, and Colonel James tells us how two-thirds of those who fought in that battle had actually served in the Grand Army and how many of the officers were decorated with the Legion of Honour! All contemporary literature describes Brussels as full of runaways even the day before the battle. Thackeray's description in "Vanity Fair" is not in the least overdrawn. Of late years certain Belgian writers have unwisely endeavoured to show that their fellow-countrymen contributed not a little to the defeat of the French. To prove this, they have cited their casualty lists at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. These, according to certain official reports, are undoubtedly severe and have imposed upon a good many people who were content to accept them as correct. Unluckily a critical investigation of these casualties establishes the fact that the Prince of Orange, probably for patriotic reasons, included all his "missing" men, the "runaways", among the killed. Thus his losses are shown as 2,085 "killed", 2051 "wounded" and none "missing". The crude absurdity of these figures, which have been gravely cited as evidence of the desperate stand made by the heroic Dutch-Belgians, is admirably exposed by Colonel James in his analysis of the losses of the allies. He contrasts the losses of two British brigades (Kempt's and Pack's) which were in the same part of the field both at Quatre Bras and at Waterloo as a Dutch-Belgian one, Bijlandt's. We find that whereas Kempt had 1,270 men killed and wounded and 2 missing, and Pack 1,287 killed and wounded and 17 missing, the bold brigade of Bijlandt had 752 killed and wounded (many "slightly") and no less than 849 "missing"! Taking into consideration the actual strength of these three brigades in the field, we find that Kempt's losses in killed and wounded amounted to 51.4 per cent., Pack's to 59.2 per cent. and Bijlandt's to 23.3 per cent., or about two-fifths of the English loss! As regards the "missing", whereas the British loss under this heading was less than $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent., that of the Dutch was 26 per cent. or more than fifty times as much! Truly might Kincaid say of the battle "May the deuce take me if I think that everybody waited there to see the end". Kincaid's description how the furious attacks on the British centre resulted in the total disappearance of these redoubtable allies is equally humorous: "It was very ridiculous to see the number of vacant spots which were left nearly along the whole of the line, where a great part of the dark-dressed foreign troops had stood, intermixed with British, when the action began."

NOVELS.

"Tangled Wedlock." By Edgar Jepson. London: Hutchinson. 1908. 6s.

Mr. Edgar Jepson is a born story-teller. His touch is deft, light and sure. He awakens at once the sense of friendliness and confidence in his reader. His work is a triumph of manner, and after reading his story it is by the way that he has handled his subject rather than by the subject itself that one is impressed. He does not depend upon plot. By his happy choice of words and still more by his tact of omission he contrives

to avoid the trite, the tedious and the commonplace. He seems to have taken the "young girl" under his special protection, and in "Tangled Wedlock" he gives once more a picture of budding womanhood as successful in its way as the delightful "Lady Noggs, Peeress". Iseult is a distinct creation, and if we do not always share the author's evident admiration of her it is because we have no great love for precocious young women. The daughter of two cranks who live in a world of fads, Iseult is allowed from childhood unfettered liberty. She develops an amazing personality, considerable beauty, and a wonderful plastic figure. She also develops the pleasant capacity of looking at people "like a witch". The result is that practically every man she meets falls a ready victim to her charms. At the age of seventeen she secretly marries a sculptor, who later discovers that his wife, whom he had believed to be dead, is still alive. Iseult is quite prepared to go on living with her sculptor, but he will not hear of it and departs for Honolulu—a rather humour-lacking device not worthy of Mr. Jepson. The author up to this point has been so persuasive, so plausible, that the reader is quite convinced that the tangled couple could not have acted otherwise than they did. But Honolulu! No, Mr. Jepson. The sculptor would not have gone there, even though he was to take "a block of marble" with him for companionship. But it is not only in the loves and sorrows of Iseult and the sculptor that the reader is interested. The minor characters are very entertaining. Mr. Jepson gives an admirable satire of life among a certain set of æsthetic prigs in Bloomsbury.

"The Fifth Queen Crowned." By Ford Madox Hueffer. London: Eveleigh Nash. 1908. 6s.

In manner Mr. Hueffer's book is a very faithful pastiche in sixteenth-century style, but in point of fact he is not careful to follow exactly the record of events as narrated in creditable histories. It is possible, of course, that he has had access to documents and records of which historians are ignorant. We should be glad to know, for instance, on what grounds he makes Nicholas Udall play so important a part at Court and in the life of Katharine Howard, when according to history he was at Oxford, and then at Eton till 1541, and later vicar of Braintree. Mr. Hueffer's indifference to tradition is in curious contrast with his zeal for accuracy in archæological detail, his labour in picturesque minutiae, the little touches by which he procures an archaic effect and makes his work suggest a modern Pre-Raphaelite painting. We are not inclined to find fault with his favourable and attractive portrait of Katharine; there is little doubt that her attainder and execution were monstrously unjust, and that after her marriage there was little with which to reproach her save a lack of tact and discretion in her manner, and the admission into her service of the men and women who had corrupted her innocence when she was a child. In general design and in construction Mr. Hueffer's work compares unfavourably with the old-fashioned romancers, for if archaic in manner he is essentially modern in method and in feeling. There is something cramped and spasmodic in his procedure, it is as if he had caught some of the confused ineffectiveness of sixteenth-century narrative. The effect is small and anæmic in comparison with, say, Bulwer Lytton's "Last of the Barons". It is true that his fifteenth-century lords talk like Palmerston or Pitt, but it is all of great aspect, it deals in big fashion with great happenings, powerful intellects, and big emotions. But then Lytton was a politician, Mr. Hueffer is a painter, and it would be ungrateful to cavil at work which, in spite of certain affectations of style and modern preciosity, is conscientiously artistic and beautifully elaborate.

"My Son and I." By Mabel Spielmann. London: Allen. 1908. 6s.

Mrs. Spielmann's book appears as a six-shilling novel, but it is perhaps too delicate and refined for the large ravening appetite of the people who devour fiction nowadays. Must not the six-shilling novel boil with passion if not with plot? Must it not affect to "analyse" character and deal with "sex problems"?

Good strong drink, rich fat food is the fare in fiction that most readers seem to want. They will scarcely find it in "My Son and I". The story is perfectly natural and fresh, with a finely drawn character—"Mater"—and with one scene of pathos, the death of Dulcie, which a master hand might have wrought.

"Leroux." By the Hon. Mrs. Walter R. D. Forbes. London: Greening. 1908. 8s.

This is a pleasant love-story of the days of the Terror, in which the daughter of an aristocratic house and a lowly-born soldier of the Republic who rises to be a general are the principal figures. They are not unfamiliar figures, of course—these lovers with the barrier of caste between them; but Mrs. Forbes makes an old theme interesting. The last chapter, in which Bonaparte gives the pair a wedding-present, strikes us as somewhat of an anticlimax coming after the really dramatic scene that runs through the three preceding chapters, which contain the effective dénouement of the whole story.

THE JULY REVIEWS.

International relations, British imperial defence, and woman suffrage are the outstanding questions in the July reviews. Germany is the *bête noire* of the writers on foreign affairs, and the cumulative effect of their prejudices is to show her brooding over the triple entente. Calchas in the "Fortnightly", Mr. Ellis Barker in the "Nineteenth Century", Dr. Dillon in the "Contemporary", and the Editor of the "National" all ring the changes on the same note. Thanks to the good work in diplomacy done by King Edward, whose influence is fully acknowledged by the various writers, England, France and Russia are on the best of terms, and the Triple Alliance has to reckon with a triple friendship which, they are generally agreed, should make for peace. "Unless war is declared in Berlin it will not be declared", says Calchas. "And if the sword is drawn at last, lest the insurance system of the triple entente should become more effective with the lapse of time, the cause will be simple. It will not be because Germany is isolated, but because the Bismarckian principle of isolating every other Power has finally failed." Into the history of the principle in practice Calchas goes at considerable length; he doubts whether the Kaiser has even grasped the first essentials of the Bismarckian system. Having failed, as we are asked to believe, in Machiavellian schemes for setting other Powers by the ears in Europe, Germany is busy stirring up strife in the Mahomedan world, to the embarrassment of Great Britain, Russia and France alike. "In this enterprise above all", says Calchas, "the German Emperor is employing incendiary methods", and has stretched out his hand even to Teheran, where the Shah is engaged in fighting the misguided so-called constitutional movement—a movement which "Wanderer" criticises in the "Contemporary".

Bismarckianism, according to the "National", is still the determining note of German policy. Yet "with its insolent veto on all international ententes excepting those of Germany" it has sustained some "heavy blows". The Anglo-French entente, on which M. André Meval writes in the "National", was one; the Anglo-Russian rapprochement, which no doubt appeals chiefly to the editor of the "National" because it is supposed to hold Germany in check, was another. Mr. Ellis Barker seems to think that the main result of the Reval gathering will ultimately show itself in South-Eastern Europe, and having explained what an excellent Army General von der Goltz has created in Turkey, he urges that Russia should be allowed to have Constantinople. If that were the outcome of the entente with Russia the peaceful character of recent diplomatic movements would not be quite obvious. Germany would see in it the realisation of her worst suspicions. Dr. Dillon finds a melancholy sign of the times in the resentment aroused in Germany by the Anglo-Russian agreement and the Reval meeting. Does Germany grudge us peace? he asks. "Irritation pierces through the most carefully worded newspaper comments", and "from Kaiser to peasant all classes feel ruffled and disquieted." Dr. Dillon takes the ingenious view that Germany is not disposed to go to war, but hopes by her naval and military programmes to make herself so powerful that she can impose her will on Europe without war. Hence any understanding which tends to defeat that aim inspires resentment.

Dr. Dillon's ideas as to the pacific intentions of Germany are not shared by Admiral Penrose Fitzgerald, who writes in the "Nineteenth Century" on "The Unrest of Insecurity". Even a partial paralysis of the British navy, says Admiral Fitzgerald, "would bring the empire tumbling down like a house of cards. This paralysis will certainly take place if we have not sufficient land forces to protect these islands from invasion at the time that Germany issues her challenge. That she will challenge us as soon as she is ready and sees a

good opportunity there can be no reasonable doubt; in fact, we have had fair warning to that effect—"Germany's future is on the ocean"; "The twentieth century belongs to Germany"; "We must have a navy of such strength that the strongest navy in the world will hesitate to try conclusions with it"; &c. &c. Whatever Germany's intentions, we cannot deny the force of his argument in favour of providing for possible military and naval contingencies. To Lord Newton's article in the "National" on "The Great Haldane Imposture" we referred last week; in the "Nineteenth Century" Major-General Charles Owen joins what Mr. Haldane calls the "miscellaneous medley of self-constituted advisers", and closely criticises the new Territorial Army scheme from the artilleryman's point of view. On the question of the Navy Sir Rowland Blennerhassett in the "National Review" expresses his apprehensions as to naval training and administration. A painful impression, he says, has been left on the public mind by "the confused circulars issued from the Admiralty in recent years, the ostentatious advertising of schemes manifestly conceived in haste, the defence of these schemes in writings, evidently inspired, by arguments whose fallacies are plain, and speeches of unhappy memory on national defence". Confidence has been shaken in the professional advisers of the Government in Whitehall, and Sir Rowland endorses the demand for an inquiry into the whole naval policy and administration of the last half-dozen years.

Mr. Asquith's speech on woman suffrage has given the lead to the Radical reviewers. The "Albany" rejects the idea that property should be the qualification; there must be an extension of the franchise, and women must be put on the same electoral basis as men. That is the Hon. Bertrand Russell's plea in the "Contemporary": "I would appeal to Liberals in the name of all their professed principles to support the demands which women suffragists make, namely the demand that women should have votes on the same terms as men." In the same Review Mrs. Billington-Greig assures us that in three countries—England, France and the United States—the woman's rebellion against what Mr. Russell would call any man being "cock of the walk" "has achieved or is approaching the militant stage". The movement aims at removing "the bar of sex from the gateways of the world—the bar sinister thrown across the path of half the sex—the bar of inferiority by which women have been denied self-ownership, self-expression, and the right of industrial and political freedom". Two writers in the "Westminster Review" tell us respectively what party politicians have said on the subject and how woman suffrage has worked in New Zealand, where "political emancipation is as yet only half complete, for women are expressly excluded from both Houses of Parliament". In Canada, according to a short paper in the "Empire Review", the suffragette has up to the present not been much in evidence, women who take an interest in the matter being absorbed in domestic affairs owing to the shortage of servants. The Hon. Mrs. Stuart Wortley in the "National" points to the women who have distinguished themselves as rulers—some, by the way, as rulers "behind the throne"—as soldiers, scholars, wits, and beauties. She says the other sex continued quietly to ignore their claims until women even learnt contempt for themselves. Mrs. Stuart Wortley bases this view on Christina of Sweden's statement that "she did not like men because they were men but because they were not women". Paradoxically she suggests that it is not for the gifted women that the clamour for emancipation is raised: it is on behalf of the rank and file that the cry must be reiterated till all women have the same economic, social and political rights as men. Lady Lovat in the "Nineteenth Century" shows at least that some of the clever women do not want the suffrage. She thinks that women would lose more than they would gain and that the advantage to humanity would not be preponderant, whilst if all women as well as all men had the suffrage, woman by her superior numbers would dictate the laws to men—"a climax which, owing perhaps to a lack of humour on the part of my sex, is far from being looked upon by them as a reductio ad absurdum. Rather they are prepared to welcome it as the dawn of a better day—in short of a female millennium".

Among the miscellaneous articles are four on India. In the "Nineteenth Century" Mr. J. Nisbet writes on Indian Famines and Indian Forests and Sir Bampfylde Fuller on the "Vision Splendid" of Indian Youth. Sir Bampfylde says that the unrest, of which mere schoolboys, excited by the seditious press and the mass-meeting agitator, are the exponents, will, if not dealt with in the spirit of discipline, control and reform, go far to justify the forebodings of those who know India best; Mr. C. Powell in the "Empire Review" shows the power of the caste system, ridicules the idea that the Hindus will readily accommodate themselves to ballot-boxes and Parliaments, and urges the rulers of India to study the real forces which govern the people; Mr. N. Macnicol in the "Contemporary" suggests that the future of India must follow on the lines laid down by Mr. Gokhale, and tells "Mr. Morley that he should advance with 'firm, courageous and intrepid step' towards making the Government of India the Indian's own—the wise course surely is to make plain at every moment that the alien authority is provisional". It is such sentimental nonsense from British pens that encourages

the aspirations which Sir Bampfylde Fuller describes as the "vision splendid" of Indian youth. Sir H. H. Johnston has articles in the "Fortnightly" and the "Nineteenth Century"—in the one he demands a new and an honest Brussels Conference on Congo affairs, in the other he says the science of anthropology is "the best corrective of intolerance, cruelty, racial arrogance and narrowminded conceit". The Olympic games are the subject of articles in the "Fortnightly" and the "National" by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and Lord Desborough. In the "Albany" Mr. Alfred Fellows writes on the public school in fact and fiction. There are various essays pertaining to the tercentenary of Canada, Mr. Edward Dickey's in the "Empire", some admirable reflections on Champlain in "Blackwood's", "Musings without Method", Mr. R. J. Machugh's on "The Winning of Canada" in the "Cornhill", and Miss Violet Markham's in the "Nineteenth Century" on the forerunners of Champlain in Canada—mainly of course Cartier, whom she apparently cannot estimate too highly. She speaks of Cartier throwing up his work in Canada in disgust, but Parkman says that Cartier was "faithless to his trust".

Mr. Francis Gribble in the "Fortnightly" has a study of "the pose" of Mr. Arthur Symonds, whose theory of art and philosophy of life are sympathetically reviewed. Pose is not used in any unfriendly sense; Mr. Gribble regards the pose of Mr. Symonds as something very different from the pose of Mr. Chesterton, Mr. Hall Caine, or Mr. Bernard Shaw. Mr. Symonds' pose is principally for himself; it is "not easily distinguishable from self-realisation"; their pose is principally for the gallery. Mr. Bernard Shaw is the subject of an article in the "Nineteenth Century" by M. Augustin Hamon, who regards him as un nouveau Molière. His dramatic work is more French than English though written in English, says M. Hamon, and "France, the country which gave the world Molière and Beaumarchais, will necessarily love Shaw their intellectual son". Apropos of Molière, Mr. Charles Whibley in the "National Review" attacks the idea of a Shakespeare National Theatre; it could not be to Shakespeare what the Comédie Française is to Molière, "because at the Comédie you may see Molière presented to-day as he was presented before the Court of Louis XIV. The reason why our unacted playwrights ask for a National Theatre is the reason why such a theatre, were it established, would be foredoomed to failure. The public would look for the extravagance to which the actor-managers have accustomed it, and we have no artistic tradition to perpetuate, no well-trained actors to put upon the stage." Why spend vast sums of public money, asks Mr. Whibley, in order to confer immortality upon ineptitude?

SHORTER NOTICES.

"The History of the Geological Society of London." By Horace B. Woodward. London: Longmans. 7s. 6d. net.

"The Geology of Coal and Coal Mining." By Walcot Gibson. London: Arnold. 1908. 7s. 6d. net.

"Studies in Fossil Botany." By Dukinfield Henry Scott. Second Edition. Vol. I.: Pteridophyta. London: Black. 1908. 3s. 6d. net.

The most elementary of amateur geologists who has ever read, say, Geikie's "Geology", will find "The History of the Geological Society of London" a very readable account of the progress of geology during the hundred years covered by the transactions of the society, which was established in 1807. It is a history of great controversies, for geology has been associated as almost no other science has been with changed views about the origin and development of the earth, animals, and man. Moreover it is rich in biography, and the most attractive features of this book are the accounts of the great pioneers of the science, who have for the most part been of singular and rare individual character. Of these there are some twenty-five reproductions of portraits, engravings, or photographs, with a coloured portrait of Dr. Buckland, perhaps the most singular genius of them all. Geology has also always been remarkable for arousing the zeal of the self-made geologist; and we have such humble workers as Mary Anning, the notable collector of fossils; Hugh Miller, who turned his fossils into charming literature; and Dick, the Thurso baker, who remained a baker and a keen collector of Old Red Sandstone fishes all his life. In all that belongs to the history of their society its members will feel that they have here a record which is at once literary and authoritative for reference.

Dr. Gibson's "Geology of Coal and Coal Mining" is the first of a series of books to be called "Arnold's Geological Series", which will deal with economic geology. They will not be general geological text-books for students, but applications of geological knowledge to particular subjects, such as this about coal and coal mining, metalliferous mining, quarrying, water supply, and precious stones. A knowledge of the general principles of geology is assumed; and on the other hand it is not a text-book of the practical working of mines for students of mining engineering. The origin and formation of the coal beds and the supplies of all the known beds of the world are described, with the geological peculiarities of each, their

(Continued on page 56.)

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characteristic fossils, and the qualities of the various kinds of coal. One general fact seems to emerge, that in all the old countries, and even in America, the difficulties and cost of working are steadily increasing. The engineer student will find this book a preliminary study of much value.

Dr. Scott is a learned palaeontologist whose work on Fossil Botany is authoritative by the mere fact that it comes from his pen. A general acquaintance with recent botany and the rudiments of geology will enable the reader to make use of this book as a scientific guide to a knowledge of the palaeontological record of plants and to learn how far the fossil evidence throws light on their evolution. This is the object of the book, and it is not intended as a general manual of fossil botany. In the book noticed above a knowledge of fossil plants is insisted on as important to the coal-mining engineer; and Dr. Scott points out that from his point of view also the carboniferous formation has the richest and most remarkable flora that the rocks have preserved. We may suggest, therefore, that, apart from its own main purpose, Dr. Scott's book may be taken as a supplement to "The Geology of Coal and Coal Mining."

"Early London." By Sir Walter Besant. London: Black. 1908. 30s. net.

Sir Walter Besant's idea of the way to write history was to go backwards. His survey of London began with the eighteenth century; then came the Stuarts, the Tudors and mediæval times, and now we have Early London, the London of the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes, the Normans. It would be interesting to know how much of this big undertaking—his magnum opus as it is called—was Sir Walter Besant's. Did he complete this new volume or has it been completed by other hands? It is naturally full of out-of-the-way matter, giving an idea of the beginnings of the greatest of cities, which no Londoner at least can help but study with the most curious attention. It is difficult to-day even to imagine that London was originally a collection of peasants' and fishermen's huts built on marshland. The task of piecing together the details of its early story is peculiarly difficult from the fact that during two hundred years its doings are not told by the historians. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle makes only one mention of London, when in 457 the Britons fled in terror from Hengist and Æsc to seek safety within its walls. It is necessary to surmise much from general history, from excavations, from site and from tradition. London was founded as a trading centre by a people who from the very first were traders. In the times of the Romans "practically the trade of the entire country passed through the port of London. The wealth of the merchants would have become very great but for the fluctuations of trade caused first by the invasions of Picts, Scots, Welsh, Irish, and 'Saxons', which interfered with the exports and imports, and next by the civil wars, usurpations and tumults which marked the late years of the Roman occupation". In the time of the Romans at any rate Augusta, as they called it, was no mean city in point of wealth, civilisation or size. London's export and import trade was carried on by foreigners; the port of early London had few or no ships of its own. The seas were infested with pirates, and the Germans and the Flemings alone seem to have had fleets able to resist attack. "The only chance of the London merchants was to send out a fleet strong enough to fight and beat off these pirates. This however they could not do; therefore for many a year to come the foreign trade of London remained with the men of Hamburg, Cologne and Bruges." The book contains over one hundred illustrations and a chapter on the geology of London by Professor T. G. Bonney.

"By Thames and Cotswold." By William Holden Hutton. London: Constable. 1908. 5s. net.

"Glamorgan and Gower." By A. G. Bradley. London: Constable. 1908. 3s. 6d. net.

"Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouth." By A. G. Bradley. London: Constable. 1908. 5s. net.

All these books are something more than guide-books and something less than local histories. They are not jejune and dry, as both these classes of books almost always are. At this time of year the very titles of the books suggest a plan of a holiday tour. A glance at their contents shows that here are scenes of great natural beauty to be explored, that abound in legend and history and poetic associations. It is pleasant to turn over the pages and admire the charming sketches by Mr. W. M. Meredith of numberless old churches, inamor-houses, castles and village "bits" in black and white; none of them disfigured by impossible colour reproductions. We must admit that verbal descriptions of scenery, even the best, when we have not seen the places ourselves are generally tedious; but after a tour we can imagine ourselves recalling Mr. Hutton's or Mr. Bradley's descriptions with unalloyed pleasure. Mr. Hutton's book is in its second edition. Mr. Bradley's two volumes are the two parts of "In the March and Borderland of Wales", reprinted thus for convenience.

"Practical Bridge." By J. B. Elwell. London: Newnes. 1908. 6s. net.

Unlike most prophets, Mr. Elwell has great honour in his own country, but on this side his books are not widely

read. The methods of playing bridge in America and in England, and even the terms used, are so very different, that an English bridge player is not likely to learn much from reading a book by an American writer. This latest work is in the form of question and answer, which seems rather a cumbersome way of imparting information. It goes over all the old ground once more, without shedding any fresh light on the subject. The only novelty is a proposed addition to the already over-long list of conventions in the "Call for a change of suit". The feeling among English bridge players is very strongly opposed to multiplying conventions. Just as whist was killed by over-scientific methods of play, so the game of bridge is in danger of suffering from the multiplication of conventions, and the danger is especially grave at the present time when a powerful enemy, in the form of "Auction Bridge", is already at its gates. The "Call for a change of suit" convention may appeal to American players, but it will certainly never be adopted in England.

"Friedberger and Fröhner's Veterinary Pathology." Translated by M. H. Hayes. 2 vols. London: Harst and Blackett. 1908. 21s. net.

This is a translation of the sixth German edition of a book which is a standard authority both in Germany and England. In its earlier form it was edited by Captain M. Horace Hayes, F.R.C.V.S., a well-known writer on horses and veterinary surgeon. His widow, who edits the present second edition, has restored the exact form of the German work, which Captain Hayes had divided into two volumes on "Infective" and "Non-Infective" diseases. Professor R. Tanner Hewlett has also written for her Notes on Bacteriology, and she has had other skilled professional assistance. In this edition Mrs. Hayes has given all the weights and measures in English, a change which will be welcome to English veterinary surgeons and students. As a treatise on general pathology and a practical book of reference these volumes will be of the greatest service to practitioners and all who have to do with horses, cattle, and other animals.

Of the new edition of "The Imperial Gazetteer of India" (Clarendon Press, 6s. net per volume) fourteen volumes have been issued, four being devoted to "The Indian Empire" and ten to the Gazetteer, which has now reached Kara. There will be twenty-six volumes in all. The work of revising, often of actual rewriting, has been divided between authorities in India and Great Britain and carried out on the lines laid down by Sir W. W. Hunter himself.

"The British Trade Book." By John Holt Schooling (London: Murray. 1908. 10s. 6d. net). We are glad to find that sufficient interest is taken in Mr. Holt Schooling's survey of the course of British and international trade during a quarter of a century to give it an assured place among the annuals. This is the third year of issue. New chapters have been added, and Professor Ashley writes a preface in which he makes grateful recognition of Mr. Schooling's services in assisting the interpretation of masses of figures, which show the remarkable changes English trade has undergone since the decade 1880-89.

Next week will be published "Memories of Gardens," by Alexander Innes Shand, with a Memoir by Sir Rowland Blennerhassett. The book is intended as a memorial of the author. Its chapters, with the exception of one, "The Eighteenth-Century Squire", appeared in the SATURDAY REVIEW. Many readers will remember Mr. Shand's pleasant sketches, and will welcome the opportunity of possessing them in a collected form. The book will contain portraits as well as illustrations in colour and black and white. Two of the pictures are by another name familiar to SATURDAY readers, Mr. D. S. MacColl. "Memories of Gardens" will be published by the West Strand Publishing Company, Limited.

"Revue des Deux Mondes." 1 Juillet.

This number contains an interesting article by M. de Lacombe on "Talleyrand's Life as an Emigré", the present number being devoted to his residence in England (1792-1794). His object throughout was to preserve the peace and even to make an alliance between the two countries. He was coldly received by the King, but at all events succeeded in inducing him to make a declaration of neutrality. The September massacres and the insults to the royal family entirely changed the feeling even of the Whigs towards the French refugees, those at all events who were suspected of any sympathy with the theories of the Revolution, even though, as was the case with Talleyrand, they may have hated Jacobinism. He found few of the houses open to him where he had received hospitality on the occasion of his first visit. It was with great reluctance that he left England and took ship for America in March 1794, but the attitude of the Government and English society was such that he could no longer remain. In fact he was warned by the emissaries of the Ministry to take his departure. There is no doubt that he was unjustly treated, but the feeling against the French Revolution was for the moment a national passion, and was by no means merely engineered by the English Government.

For this Week's Books see page 53.

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The Debenture Stock will bear interest at the rate of £3½ per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly, on the 15th January and the 15th July, the first half-year's interest being due on the 15th January next. The interest on the Debenture Stock will be paid by warrant transmitted by post, and payable at the Bank of England.

The Stock may be redeemed at par by the Company on or at any time after 15th July, 1938, at their option, with the previous consent of the Secretary of State for India in Council, and upon twelve calendar months' previous notice being given. Applications, which must be accompanied by a deposit of £5 per cent., will be received at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, E.C. In case of a partial allotment, the balance of the amount paid as deposit will be applied towards the payment of the first instalment. Should there be a surplus after making that payment, such surplus will be refunded by cheque.

Applications must be for multiples of £100. No allotment will be made of a less amount than £100 Stock.

The dates on which the further payments will be required are as follows:—

On Monday, the 27th July, 1908, £21 per cent.;
On Friday, the 28th August, 1908, £35 per cent.;
On Monday, the 28th September, 1908, £35 per cent.;

but the instalments may be paid in full on or after the 27th July, under discount at the rate of £2 per cent. per annum. In the case of default in the payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposit and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Script Certificates to Bearer will be issued in exchange for the provisional receipts.

The Stock will be registered in the Company's books on or after the 1st October, 1908, but allotments paid up in full in anticipation may be registered forthwith.

A copy of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Purchase Act, 1900 (63 & 64 Vict., ch. cxxxviii.), and the letter from the Under-Secretary of State above referred to, may be seen at the Company's Offices between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Applications for the Stock must be on printed forms, which may be obtained at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, E.C.; at the Branches of the Bank of England; at the offices of the Company, 48 Copthall Avenue, London, E.C.; of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall & Co., 13 George Street, Mansion House, E.C.; or of Messrs. R. Nivison & Co., 76 Cornhill, E.C.

The List of Applications will be closed on, or before, Thursday, the 16th day of July, 1908.

Bank of England, E.C.: 10th July, 1908.

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UNITED MOTOR CAB CO.

General Meetings of the preferred, ordinary, and the deferred shareholders of the United Motor Cab Company, Limited, were held yesterday at Salisbury House, E.C., for the purpose of considering a resolution to sell the undertaking to the General Motor Cab Company, Mr. Davison Dalziel, Chairman of the Company, presiding.

The secretary, Mr. R. Gordon, having read the notice convening the meeting, The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the proposal, gave details similar to those given at the subsequent meeting of the General Motor Cab Company.

Mr. Godfrey Isaacs seconded the adoption of the resolutions, and they were unanimously agreed to.

GENERAL MOTOR CAB CO.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the General Motor Cab Company, Limited, was held at Salisbury House, yesterday to consider the proposal to purchase the undertaking of the United Motor Cab Company. Mr. Davison Dalziel, Chairman of the Company, presided.

The secretary, Mr. R. Gordon, having read the notice, The Chairman said: Before formally putting these resolutions I presume you will like to hear something from me concerning the reasons which influenced your Directors to bring this proposal before you. It cannot justly be said that the idea of amalgamating the interests of the United Motor Cab Company with your own comes as a surprise, for I have on several occasions given you to understand that at some favourable opportunity such an event might come to pass. The United Motor Cab Company has, since its formation been more or less under the guidance and control of your own Company. We have from the outset been financially interested. I have personally been chairman of the Company and three of your Directors, Mr. Lazare Weiller, Mr. Charles Mascart, and Mr. Wistot have been members of the Board; we have therefore had every opportunity of watching the development of this sister undertaking, and of coming to a matured conclusion as to whether, by an amalgamation of interests the welfare of both concerns would be served. The United Motor Cab Company has been reared to maturity under the same conditions, save those of management, as the General Motor Cab Company; and it may satisfy you to know that the comparative workings are practically the same as your own, that the receipts and earnings are also comparatively at least as good as your own, and that the remarkable success which has hitherto attended the growth and development of your own enterprise, has been shared to its fullest extent by the ally which you are now, I hope, about to take permanently into your incorporation. In the opinion of your Board, the amalgamation will be beneficial to the shareholders of both Companies, if for no other reason than on the score of economy in working. This economy will be found, not only in the great advantage which must necessarily follow from the purchasing power of the combined concerns, but in the many other directions of administration. It must be obvious to any man of business that a concern controlling and working between three and four thousand motor cabs, as this Company will eventually do, must be in a position to command the lowest possible terms in the purchase of the great amount of supplies necessary for its daily working. I am satisfied that, leaving all other considerations aside—and there are many of great importance—the amalgamation will have fruitful results. I think also, and my opinion is shared by my colleagues, that the amalgamation and its attendant consequences will, for the present at least, remove the possibility of any effective competition. I have already told you at our last annual meeting that we do not consider that the Motor Cab Industry can be worked profitably upon a small scale, and that it is only where a Company has within its grasp all the advantages which we possess that it will become possible to show the satisfactory results which will have been able, and will still, I have no doubt, be able to place before you. We have invested in our frehold works and properties at Brixton about £150,000, but these works have placed us in a position to-day of having almost everything that is required for the repair, upkeep, and maintenance of our large number of cabs at a price which no competitor can possibly hope to imitate excepting upon an equally large investment. I fully described to you at our annual meeting all the advantages we were deriving from the complete and up-to-date works we have established at Brixton, works which, since that time, have been largely added to, and when complete will certainly be the most efficient of their kind owned by any similar establishment to ours in the entire world. It may interest you to know that only a small proportion of the cabs which have been contracted for by the two Companies are actually working, but that with the number plying for hire, the takings in cash of the two Companies during the month of June alone were no less than £70,190 9s. 9d., or at the rate of over £80,000 per annum, with every possibility, as it would appear, of those receipts approaching, for the current month of July, to the great figure of about £90,000. You may imagine for yourselves therefore what are the financial possibilities of this Company when, out of the existing capital, the earning power will shortly be increased to at least three and possibly four times as much as is to-day. By this I mean that for every cab you have running in the streets now, there are at least as many more on order as will multiply them by three (provided for out of your available resources) and that we are therefore regularly daily adding more cabs to our working forces, and consequently increasing the average of our daily receipts practically every day. There is one point upon which I am anxious to say a few words, and that is on the subject of depreciation. It seems to be a popular opinion, based on a quite erroneous appreciation of the facts, that the skeleton in the cupboard here is depreciation. Let me say, once and for all, that this question is being amply provided for in your accounts. Depreciation is met in the first instance by upkeep, and upkeep is paid for out of revenue. Do not lose sight of the fact that each cab is licensed at Scotland Yard for one year only, and that before the cab can be re-licensed it undergoes a thorough examination at the hands of the Police Department; and that, unless it is in a condition of first efficiency, the license is not renewed. It is my contention, therefore, that when a cab is presented for re-licensing, it is to all practical purposes of the same intrinsic value as it was when licensed at the beginning of the previous year, and this same argument can be carried on indefinitely as long as the cabs are being re-licensed. The upkeep is paid for out of the revenue, and we are able to do this at a practically infinitesimal cost owing to the efficiency of our works. No small company could possibly accomplish this. In addition, we are writing off one-sixth of the original cost of each cab every year, so that at the end of six years you will still possess your cab in good condition, but standing in the books at nothing. I have referred to this at this meeting merely because I think it is an excellent opportunity to set at rest the ever recurring and quite unjustifiable statements which have been circulated by those who, knowing nothing of the fact, and probably caring less, take this method of casting a slur upon an enterprise which, I have little hesitation in saying, is destined to live and flourish, to the gratification of the public and the shareholders alike. Beyond what I have said as to the joint takings for the month of June, I do not propose at this meeting to go into particulars of actual figures dealing with the workings of your Company during the past year, and this applies also to the United Motor Cab Company. The books and accounts will be made up to the 31st day of this month, and, as shortly thereafter as possible, you will be called together to approve them. I may say this much, however, that I am quite sure that those who hold shares, both preferred and ordinary, in this Company, and in fact in both Companies, will be more than satisfied with the results. It must be gratifying to you to know that under the new regime, the Company will, in the managing committee, continue to benefit by the experience of those who have been instrumental in bringing it to its present satisfactory condition. Mr. Edgar Cohen, who has acted as Managing Director of your Company in the past, has been re-engaged in that capacity for a fixed period of ten years, and we feel that, in coming to this arrangement we have acted in the best interests of the Company. I will now formally propose that the Resolutions Nos. 1 and 2, as read to you by the Secretary of the Company, be and they are hereby, approved and confirmed. The Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the resolutions as they appeared upon the notice paper.

Mr. Edgar Cohen seconded the resolutions, and they were carried unanimously. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and Directors was passed on the motion of Sir William Bell, seconded by Mr. Brighton.

At a meeting of the deferred shareholders the proposal was also unanimously agreed to.

TROITZK GOLDFIELDS

The First Ordinary General Meeting of the Troitzk Goldfields, Limited, was held on Thursday at Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., Mr. J. C. Williamson (Chairman of the Company) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. William Goldie, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice calling the meeting, and also the auditors' report,

The Chairman said it would be remembered that the Company was formed to acquire a lease of four mining properties situate in the Troitzk district, Government of Orenburg, in the Russian Empire, together with an option to purchase. In due course the option to purchase was exercised, and in October, 1906, the deed of transfer of the properties to the Company was duly executed. The authorisation, according to Russian law, was duly granted, and the total output of the mines from all sources was 10,622 ozs. of fine gold, valued at £44,821. The profit and loss account shows that against this income the total expenditure in Russia, less interest received, then amounted to £52,854, showing a loss of £8,033, and, after allowing for depreciation on capital account, and for London administration expenses, the total amount to the debit of profit and loss account, as at January 13 last, was £17,660. In explanation of this result, he would remind them that it could not be considered indicative of the value of the property, for there were various adverse factors which were not expected to recur, and, moreover, they had been operating with a milling plant which was not of a modern character. Mr. Hooper visited the property early last year, and as the result a definite programme for developing the mine was arranged with the general manager. This programme had been adhered to, and it was very satisfactory to be able to state that the hopeful anticipation regarding the developments of the ore bodies had so far been realised. During the period under review 5,185 feet of development and exploratory work had been done. There could be no doubt that a large quantity of ore exists. The general manager estimated that by next spring at least 75,000 tons of ore in the main lode should be blocked out, which alone should be sufficient to keep a plant treating 6,000 tons of ore a month in full operation for one year. It was expected that the new plant, with a capacity of about 6,000 tons a month, would be erected and in operation by next spring. The general manager confidently anticipated that when the new plant was running at its full capacity the working costs would be reduced approximately to 15s. a ton. Upon an actual recovery of 6½ dwt. of fine gold (equal to about 27s. 3d. per ton) there would be a substantial margin of profit. The parent company, the Siberian Proprietary Company, Ltd., had agreed to advance them up to £30,000 to continue the development of the property and to pay for the erection of the new plant, and this large sum, it was confidently hoped, would be sufficient to bring the company to a dividend-paying stage. There was every reason to believe that payable ore would continue in depth in large quantities, and he regarded the company's prospects as distinctly encouraging. He moved the adoption of the report.

Sir West Ridgeway seconded the motion, which was agreed to, with a single dissentient.

ORSK GOLDFIELDS.

The First Ordinary General Meeting of the Orsk Goldfields, Limited, was held on Thursday at Salisbury House, London Wall, the Right Hon. Sir West Ridgeway (Chairman of the Company) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. William Goldie, F.C.I.S.), having read the notice calling the meeting, and also the auditor's report,

The Chairman said that from March 1, 1906 (the date of incorporation) to January 13, 1908, the total expenditure in Russia amounted to £164,891, from which was deducted the sum of £77,237, being the realised value of bullion recovered from all sources, together with sundry receipts, leaving a balance of £87,653, to which must be added the expenditure in London of £3,637, making a total of £91,290. This amount would probably have to be written off if the lease was abandoned, and it was with great regret that the Board had come to the conclusion that the abandonment of the mine at the end of their lease, in March 1909, was a strong probability. The reason was not that the mines were not in all reasonable probability sufficiently rich to justify expenditure on their further development, nor was the reason paucity of funds, for no doubt the Siberian Proprietary Mines would come to their assistance with the funds that might be required for development, if circumstances justified their doing so. The reason was that the leases which were negotiated with the vendors by the Siberian Proprietary Mines and taken over by this Company had proved to be too onerous. Negotiations had been carried on, but so far without success, for an abatement of the price. The principal proprietor, Mr. Antonov, agreed to a reasonable reduction, but he had as his partner a lady whom it was difficult to bring to terms. There was still some hope that the owners, this lady included, when they saw that it was really the Directors' intention to abandon the mines, might come to some agreement for continuing the lease on the payment of a moderate royalty on the gold produced; if so it would be well worth consideration whether in the interval they took up another proposition or not, if they should not continue the work of development on which they had expended so much money. The board are not inclined to repeat the offer, and in the meantime a very interesting proposition had been laid before them. This was the alluvial mining property situated in East Siberia, and referred to in the directors' report. The Nadetsky property is at present owned by the Ochotsk Gold Mining Company. It had been most favourably reported upon by one of the greatest experts, if not the greatest expert, in alluvial gold mining of the day, Mr. Parlington, who had confidence in his own convictions to such an extent that he had accepted the office of chief engineer or manager. The Chairman made his acknowledgments to those who had worked with him during two anxious years, and then moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. J. C. Williamson seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

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